THE MADOC MERCURY
AND NORTH RIDING NEWS.

No. 163. MADOC, (HASTINGS CO., C.W.,) SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 1866. PRICE TWO CENTS.

From Europe.

The Canadian steamship Hibernian, from Liverpool on the 11th, via Londonderry on the 12th, arrived at Portland on the 25th ult., with 286 passengers.

Mr. Disraeli, as the leader of the Opposition in the House of Commons, has issued the customary notice to his party, requesting their attendance in the House on the 6th of February, when the Queen will deliver a speech.

It is stated that 21 Fenians, fully armed with revolvers and other weapons, landed at Sligo on the 10th inst., and were immediately arrested. Great alarm prevailed at Sligo.

The police at Dublin on the same day secured a large quantity of pikes and percussion caps, and arrested two persons concerned in their manufacture.

The Freeman's Journal says that Stephens is still believed to be in Ireland.

The steamship Java, from Liverpool on the 13th, via Queenstown on the 14th, arrived at New York on the 26th ult.

A violent snow storm prevailed in England on the 11th, and besides breaking down the telegraph wires all over the country, interfered with the running arrangements of most of the railways. More snow fell than on any previous occasion for years, in many places drifting several feet in depth. The streets of London were in a shocking state, and all the papers had articles on the subject.

Southey, alias Forward, who murdered three children in London, and afterwards killed his wife and daughter at Margate, was executed at Maidstone on the 11th amid a blinding snow storm. Earnest efforts had been made to obtain a reprieve on the ground of insanity.

The Fenian trials are still progressing. The jury could not agree on a verdict in the case of Byrne, the prison warden, charged with aiding in the escape of Stephens. They were discharged, and Byrne remains in custody.

It is reported that Stephens was not allowed to tarry in Paris, and has gone to Geneva to confer with M. Person and the members of his international revolutionary club.

The London Star believes that Earl Russell has submitted his Reform bill to the cabinet.

The Paris correspondent of the Times says the Mexican difficulty was before the last ministerial council. All, or nearly all, the members were for a speedy recall of the French troops. The Emperor, it is said, does not think the moment yet arrived to do so safely—at least not until the Emperor of Austria shall have completed the necessary foreign contingent to keep his brother on the throne of Mexico.

The Military Revolt in Spain.

Accounts of the progress of the revolt commenced by two regiments under the lead of Gen. Prim are a little contradictory. A rumour was current in Madrid on the 9th, that the insurgents had defeated a government column, commanded by Gen. Concha, and it was further stated that Marshal Serrano had gone to Concha's assistance. The latest official despatches from Madrid, on the other hand, state that the insurgents are discouraged, and that they are retreating, through the mountains of Toledo, towards the frontier of Portugal. The principal mountain passes are held by the royal troops.

In consequence of hostile demonstrations at Barcelona, the authorities ordered the troops to fire on crowds. Some persons are reported killed and wounded. The crowds were dispersed and order re-established. Tranquillity, it is officially reported, prevails throughout the country; but there is considerable uneasiness in Madrid, which has been declared in a state of siege.

A Paris letter contains the following proclamation of Gen. Prim:—

"Spaniards:—We have arrived at the terrible moment in which revolution is the only recourse of the nation and the main duty of honourable men. I am at the head of a considerable force, and a great number of armed countrymen hasten on all sides to place under my orders for the cause of freedom and fatherland. My banner is the last manifesto of the progressist central committee. With it in my hand I will fight with my wonted valor against the government which dishonours us abroad and ruins us at home to the point of making us a laughing stock among foreign nations, and bringing us on the verge of shameful bankruptcy. Soldiers who have already fought under my orders, you are aware that I have never forsaken you, and that if you stand by me in this enterprise I shall know how to lead you, first showing you the path to victory, and next remunerating your endeavors. Fellow citizens! men of honour aid me, you too, to bring to a happy end a political revolution which may do away with the necessity of that social revolution with which we are threatened. Spaniards! hurrah for liberty, for the programme of the central progressist committee of the constituent cortez.

JUAN PRIM."

A letter to the London Times, dated at Madrid, January 5, says:—

"At the head of the insurgents, or at least at the direction of their movements, is, it is now ascertained beyond doubt, Gen. Prim, who has with him Milano del Bosch, and other officers, his fellow campaigners in Morocco and Mexico. If one could believe his Progresista friends, Prim knows very well what he is about, has met with full success, has been joined by a detachment of troops and volunteers, and commands a force of from six to eight thousand men. At Villarejas de Salvanes he had, on the 3rd, ordered two thousand rations. If all we hear is true, and he has no chance of success in front, he has the open country in his rear, and the whole of Arragon and Catalonia, it is supposed, to support him.

That the government is in a state of uneasiness is a matter sufficiently obvious, to be inferred from its precautions about shutting up clubs the whole day and night, confining all soldiers to their barracks, &c. So little faith has O'Donnell in the steadiness of his subalterns that on the night of the 3rd and 4th he went himself twice to relieve guard at the Palace, and twice reconnoitered every post. A reinforcement of one hundred and fifty civil guards were added yesterday to the very considerable mass of troops that daily garrison the Palace de la Gobernacion, or Home office, properly a barrack and citadel—at the Puerto del Sol.

. . . . "Uneasiness prevails, and will not be allayed for a long time. Prim is in the field and four generals were more or less openly in league with him; the whole of the Progresista party, with their ominous Retraiminto, with their open and secret committees in every town and Province, are at the beck of him. However rash and hotheaded and reckless, would a man like Prim, a man so high in the army, so well-to do in the world, a man still young, but of mature understanding, a man with a wife and children, have ventured on an enterprise which offered so little chance of success? The affair, be it remembered, was prepared long beforehand. The plot has been months, nay years, hatching. For over so long a time Prim has been known to have a large party in the army; to be the idol of all young subalterns. His antechamber was daily crowded with a levee of obsequious followers, anxious to do homage to 'the man of the situation,' to bask in the rays of the rising sun. Himself, his aide-de-camps, his dashing friend, General Milano del Bosch, laid out their plans before the world with hardly a shadow of reserve. The government were aware 'of a wide spread conspiracy'—so were the government's enemies, so were the conspirators themselves."

At last accounts Prim was presenting a bold front to the Government, and the Times' Madrid correspondent speaks of him in these words:—"The prolongation of the present state of suspense and uncertainty can hardly fail to be prejudicial to the Government, and Prim is likely enough to carry his point if he can only gain time. His wife here in Madrid talks of his chances with glee, and says that her Juanito can go wherever he pleases and achieve whatever he undertakes."

The Reciprocity Commission.

A despatch from Washington in the New York Tribune of Friday is to the following effect:—

The Canadian reciprocity delegation held an interview by appointment last evening with Secretary McCulloch, at which all but two members of the committee of ways and means were present. They met the committee this morning at the capitol, and again went over their propositions for a new treaty. Their tone and requests have thus far produced a very favourable impression. The Canadian delegation is having conferences with the committee of ways and means every day. Last evening they met in the office of the Secretary of the Treasury, Mr. McCulloch being present. The delegation have already come to the conclusion that a renewal of the reciprocity treaty cannot be had, and the question is now being discussed on what articles a certain sort of reciprocity can be established by mutual legislation. The members of the delegation are highly spoken of as men thoroughly conversant with the subject."

A despatch to the *Herald* indicates the wishes of the commissioners:—

"They desire first that the expiration of the reciprocity treaty may be extended. In the event that it cannot be accomplished, then they desire to establish such commercial relations as will be most advantageous to both governments, and that until such relations are established the present treaty remain in force. It is not at all likely that the committee will consent to any arrangement. Both the Secretary of the Treasury and the committee are willing to enter into negotiations with the view of arriving at some satisfactory and just basis for commercial intercourse that will be mutually beneficial. Without reaching any conclusion the matter was adjourned until the next meeting."

Fenian Threats of Invasion.

BUFFALO, Jan. 26.—The Fenian mass meeting announced for this evening was an immense gathering. Speeches were made by Gen. Sweeny, Col. Roberts, James Brennan, John W. Murphy, and A. M. Clapp. Gen. Sweeny pledged himself, if supported, before the sun of May shines, to conquer a certain territory upon which the Irish flag shall be planted, and which shall be made the base of operations against England.—Col. Roberts promised within ninety days to have the green flag supported by the greatest army of Irishmen upon which the sun ever shone.—The Senate was enthusiastically endorsed, and its plan of action approved. All belligerent remarks were greatly applauded.

CLEVELAND, Jan. 30.—President Roberts and General Sweeney addressed a very large Fenian meeting here last night. They talked about a Canadian invasion and were loudly applauded.

These threats, if they do not cause actual apprehension, appear to be leading to the adoption of precautionary measures out west. The London's Hamilton correspondent, writing from that city on the 30th ult., says the volunteers there were under arms, in readiness, as a Fenian raid was expected.

EXCITEMENT IN LONDON.—A despatch to the Hamilton Times of Tuesday evening says that rumour was very busy in London yesterday with Fenian intelligence. "It is understood that a telegram from the frontier was received last night by the military authorities here, containing news of importance. This is confirmed by the fact that extra guards were on duty last night, and unusual vigilance exercised. It is evident that the garrison here are on the qui vive for some event of importance."

MONITORS AND IRON-CLADS.—Mr. James B. Eads, of St. Louis, the large iron contractor, has just returned from Europe where he was sent by the United States government to investigate the quality of the British iron-clads. He says that he was treated with the utmost courtesy by the Royal Navy authorities. He expresses it as his opinion that while monitors are excellent for harbour defence "the British iron-clads would make short work of them on the ocean." He considers that the Monadnock is the only vessel able to contend with one of our iron clads. He admires the British system of heavy broadsides from casements thoroughly protected.

THE MADOC MERCURY

AND NORTH RIDING NEWS.

A Weekly Journal of Local and General Information,

Will be Published every Saturday Morning, at Ten Cents a Copy, or One Dollar a Year, STRICTLY in advance.

ADVERTISEMENTS WILL BE INSERTED ON THE FOLLOWING TERMS FOR CASH:—

Six lines, first insertion	0 50
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Each subsequent insertion	0 16
Above ten lines (per line) first insertion	0 07
Each subsequent insertion, per line	0 02

All Communications for the MERCURY to be addressed (post-paid) to A. SMALLFIELD, Madoc Post Office.

For sale at WILSON'S MEDICAL HALL, *Madoc, where Subscribers in and near the village may obtain their copies, and orders for the paper and advertisements will obligingly be received.*

☞ SUBSCRIPTIONS PAYABLE YEARLY OR QUARTERLY IN ADVANCE.

A RICH BALE OF COTTON.—Many cotton bales arriving in New York have to be overhauled dirt and stained cotton thrown out, and then rebailed. The other day two labourers in discharge of this duty found in one of the bales $27,000 in gold. One of them proposed to the other to divide and keep mum, but the other said he would report to the "boss." The purchaser of the cotton claimed the gold, and the seller claimed it because the cotton was not delivered, and for other reasons and probably the court will decide to whom this rich mine belongs. The purchaser gave the two labourers $400 each in greenbacks.

THE MADOC MERCURY

AND NORTH RIDING NEWS.

MADOC, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 3.

The Hon. Mr. Fergusson-Blair was re-elected by acclamation, on Thursday last, at Guelph, for the representation of the Brock Division in the Legislative Council, which had been rendered vacant by his acceptance of the office of President of the Council. In returning thanks, he said that it was no secret now that the cause of Mr. Brown's resignation of the seat in the Cabinet which Mr. Blair now occupies, was connected with the question of reciprocity. He said it might very reasonably be inferred that the differences of opinion between Mr. Brown and his colleagues were in regard as to what might be considered the best method of negotiating the continuance of the treaty, or as to the best policy for this country to adopt, failing to obtain it; but that it was important that the opinions formed on those points should not be made known during the progress of the negotiations, for they would at once lay bare our policy to the United States Government while we are left entirely in the dark as to theirs.—In reply to a question he positively declined to make known the views of his colleagues, but for himself he expressed the opinion that while reciprocity has been a great advantage to this country, and also to the United States, he never had considered it of such very great importance to Canada as he thought it was generally held to be. But while thinking it very desirable to have reciprocity, he was not prepared to pay too much for it—even gold itself might be bought too dear. He was not prepared to sacrifice either colonial or imperial interests for the sake of reciprocity; and if at last we fail to get he did not think it would kill us.

For the present, then, we are left in the dark as to the policy of the Government on this question; and whether Mr. Brown, or the majority of his late colleagues, were in favour of yielding to the terms the Americans wish to impose on condition of continuing the treaty; but in all probability the country will not be kept waiting long for full explanations, as it is expected that an early session of Parliament will be called, when the falure of the negotiations for a renewal of the treaty will be mentioned.

As to the American view there is less room for doubt, though nothing is actually settled. A preliminary report on the subject has been prepared by Mr. E. H. Derby, at the request of Secretary McCulloch, of which the principal feature is a proposal—

To extend the present treaty for the further term of one year from the 17th of March next, on the condition that Canada shall repeal all duties and taxes on salt, cars, locomotives, vehicles of all kinds, machinery, furniture, tools, implements, soap, starch, boots, shoes, leather, horse shoes and horse shoe nails, harness tacks, brads, watches, music and musical instruments, clocks, tin and wooden ware, mousselin de laines, coarse shawls, satinets and sheetings and shirtings worth less than one dollar a pound, and raise her internal tax and duty on spirits to at least 75 cents per gallon, wine measure, and discontinue her free ports on Lake Huron and Superior.

The said treaty for extension shall also provide that the United States may impose any internal taxes on the productions of the provinces which they levy upon their own products of the same kind.

The U. S. Commissioners on Internal Revenue, in a recent report, also allude to the subject of Reciprocity—which they would be willing to continue, if Canada will adopt as high customs and excise duties as the Americans have been compelled to impose on themselves. In other words, they want to make us pay a part of their war taxation—a very modest, but totally inadmissible proposition!

It will be a fortunate thing for this country, if the abrogation of the treaty forces us in self-defence into the adoption of a thorough free-trade policy, although it would involve the necessity of direct taxation to carry on the government. That, however, would be far less burdensome than the imposition of American taxation; while free trade would lead to a wonderful influx of foreign capital and increase of commercial enterprise.

Madoc Township Council.

TOWN-HALL, Feb. 1, 1866.

Present—A. F. Wood, Reeve; W. Ward, Deputy Reeve; J. Tassie, W. Blair, and S. Reed, Councillors.

The petitions of James Kincaid, to be detached from the Queensborough school section, and attached to school section No. 4, Madoc; and of W. Fox, to be transferred from school section No. 16 to No. 7, were laid over to next meeting of Council.

Ezra B. Dire presented a petition, asking assistance on the ground that he was unable to labour, and that he and his family were suffering from want.—From statements made to the Council, it appeared that the applicant was able to work, and could get plenty of employment, if he chose.—A little temporary assistance was granted, the applicant being also informed that it would be useless for him to apply to the Council again.

The Council then proceeded with the appointment of the following Township officers:—

Collector.—Donald Nicholson.

Assessors.—Thomas Allen and J. N. Moore.

Road Surveyor.—J. H. Dunn.

Fence-Viewers.—District No. 1, N. H. Bristol, L. Riggs, J. H. Dunn.—No. 2, J. O'Hara, Sen., W. West, H. McKenzie.—No. 3, Levius Empey, H. Robinson, J. Carman.—No. 4, C. Long, W. Woods, C. Allen.

Tavern and License Inspector.—J. Dale.

Pound-Keepers.—J. H. Dunn, H. Cooper, W. Vankleeck, G. Fox, James Thompson, Mark Runnings, Coleman Harris, Alex. Nicholson, David Embury, W. West, Joseph Hazzard, Alfred Anstee, W. Fox, E Franklin, Peter Murphey, Thos. Hart, W. Mumby, John Sager.

Pathmasters.—David Lewis, west of the grand road, and D. Ross, east, for the village; A. Anstee, T. Marrin, H. Tuller, L. Riggs, G. Miller, jr., John E. Moore, I. Canniff, S. Embury, J. Miller, J. Plane, G. Tennison, J. Nicks n, A. Allen, J. R. Ketcheson, A. Nicholson, W. Campbell, Z. Lavigne, P. Murphy, G. Bristol, R. Burnside, W. Jones, J. Sager, W. Blakey, G. McGaughey, J. Remington, H. Cooper, jr., James Blair, C. Harris, John Reed, P. Holmes, J. H. McCoy, W. Roy, D. Ketcheson, R. Cooper, P. Vankleeck, John Blair, P. Gunsolus, H. Cooper (blacksmith), John Coskey, Thomas Blair, J. H. Wannamaker, W. Mc Beath, T. Comerford, W. Fox, sen., Jos. Chambers, James Shaw, James Bateman, J. Cooke, Ch. English, Jos. Bailey, A. Begg, J. Fox, D. Reed, C. Sandford, W. H. Carpenter, A. Gavin, J. Parks.

FRIDAY, Feb. 2.

The Council met, and fixed the salaries for the ensuing year as follows—Assessors, $40 each; Collector, $75; License and Tavern inspector, $20; Road Surveyor, $3 for each report; Clerk's Salary, $100.

The customary by-laws confirming the appointment, &c., of Township Officers, were passed.

The Auditors' Report was received and confirmed.

Adjourned till April.

Have We any "Intelligent People" in Madoc?

To the Editor of the Madoc Mercury.

SIR,—In passing strictures upon the characters of men in office, the public are inclined to make an indulgent allowance for the conflicting opinions of opposite political parties.

Complaints are uttered without a cause, and a course of action which indicates an honest zeal for the public good, is oftimes condemned on account of its origin. It is not in the nature of human society that coincidence of opinion, can animate the entire body; but *self interest* generally invites unanimity, when the matter at issue is strictly local, and promises a mutual benefit to the residents of the section concerned.

The large and influential party who sent Mr. [illegible] Wallbridge to Parliament as their representative, have narrowly watched his legislative action from the inception of his public career to the present time, and have accorded to him an unqualified approval of his course. During the same period, the party who were defeated by Mr. Wallbridge's election, have used their *political prerogative* to denounce him.

The development of the vast mineral resources of his section, by the establishment of a Railway, is desired by every one resident in this locality, and as our interests in this regard are in the hands of two *conflicting* parties, the public are, as a consequence, divided in sentiment,—one division favouring Flint, the other Wallbridge. The party who endorse the action of Mr. Wallbridge are chiefly composed of his own constituents, although in the village of Madoc many of the leading men of the opposite party uphold him on this question, on purely local grounds. When we add to Mr. Wallbridge's constituents,—who represent a majority of the rate-payers of the Riding,—a goodly number of the influential men of the opposite party, we may infer, with safety, that numerically, *at least*, Mr. Wallbridge is the strongest man.

I contend that nothing is valuable in speech when the element of truth is ignored. Nor will any declaration made at a public meeting produce conviction unless supported by fact. When Mr. Wood declares, as at Queensborough, that Mr. Flint's adherents, on the Railway question, comprise the intellectual portion of the Riding, we feel invited to observe that such an utterance could scarcely fail to degrade his mind in its own esteem. And we are led to conclude that some unknown cause must have turned his brain; that prejudice triumphed over reason; or that he was deficient in truth! A canvass of his own village, the section most interested in the Railway scheme, would gainsay most emphatically what he avers.

One who assumes himself capable of estimating the intellectual resources of an entire community, should be able by the superior force of his own intellect to invite from others an involuntary feeling of veneration; but I fear that the unqualified declaration of Mr. Wood, at Queensborough, is too *transparent* to impose upon the meanest understanding.

Mr. Wallbridge's friends are both *numerous* and *intelligent*, and they appreciate the honest zeal and active exertions of their Member, for the general good of the Riding, and of this Township especially.

Yours truly, YEOMAN.

MADOC, Jan. 29th, 1865.

MADOC IRON IN ENGLAND.—The English mail which reached here on Monday night, brought a most favor-

ccount of certain samples of iron ore, and the on manufactured therefrom by Messrs. A. Le Co., of Three Rivers. The samples were sent gland by Hon. L. Wallbridge, and it is encou- to know that in Sheffield, where the samples been taken, they are greatly valued. We expect e more definite information by the next English —*Chronicle.*

From the Hastings Chronicle.

THE QUEENSBOROUGH BANQUET.

Orators Divulge their Secret—They Let the Cat out.

MADOC, January 27th, 1866.

.—Though the *Intelligencer's* report studiously ls to mention the fact, the Madoc *Mercury* does ail to catch it. There was a "chiel among them ng notes, an' faith he prints them." By all means the people of Madoc and Marmora, as well as every bitant of the County who desires to see our Road tructed without "jobbery," read the *Mercury's* ings.

he Hon. Bills Flint "trusted *petitions* would be up in time for the meeting of Parliament to back himself and Mr. Read."

on. Mr. Read "wanted *petitions* in favour of Mr. nt's Bill to be handed in."

r. K. Graham, who thinks, according to the *Intelligencer's* report, that *our Farmers are too ignorant to me Legislators*, wants, according to the *Mercury* "a pressure should now be brought to bear by *tions* in favour of Mr. Flint's Bill."

hy, let me ask, do these three disinterested par- so much desire *Mr. Flint's Bill*? Would not a *er Bill answer their purpose* whether it was carried ough the House by Mr. Flint or Mr. Anybodyelse? it must be Mr. Flint's Bill and no other Bill: even a Government Bill, for the purpose of rend- ng the Ministry of the day responsible, and watch- that no jobbery were perpetrated. Yes, this is the d of Bill also that Mr. Bowell wants. He wants . Flint's Bill and no other Bill. Let Madoc and rmora take note of this! Mr. Flint's idea of get- ...Bridge to North Hastings was to connect his ...perty to Bridgewater with his property in Belle- le, and as stated by Mr. Wallbridge in Mr. Flint's sence at the meeting here, and then admitted by r. Flint, to make Bridgewater the County Town, to n the main line up the Scoot, and leave Madoc and rmora to the accommodation of a side line, of ourse to be built out of the surplus funds after giving he Marmora Co. $200,000 of the proceeds of the rant of land, and the "grant" necessarily contin- ent on his schemes. Yes, Mr. Bowell, Mr. Read, d our worthy Warden have adopted this scheme of r. Flint's, and they cannot any longer deny it. It well understood here, and I think I can see the peo le of Madoc and Marmora signing a petition to carry eir iron to market *via* the County town of Bridge- ater, and on a one horse side-line built out of the *rplus* funds which Messrs Read, Flint, Bowell, Wood Co. will have on hand when the great Scoot valley oad is built. Yes, I think I can see the Reeve of dney, who stated at the Queensborough Dinner, that is Township paid nearly as much taxes as all North Hastings, hold up his hands for "the pressure," es ecially when the question of Municipal taxation to ake good the squandered land grant comes before he Township Electors of Sidney. Yes, pay $200,000 o the Marmora Co. for their exhausted ore beds, hen ten times as much ore as they ever owned, and f a better quality, can be bought in the same Town- hip that their property lies in, for four or five thou- nd dollars. Yes, pay $100,000 more for the right f way, and then divide the balance among the job- ers that will fatten on such a project, and then see ow much will be left to construct the Railway even o Bridgewater! We know this here, and will look fter the petitions when they come about. And if I istake not, the people of Madoc and Marmora will end a petition which perhaps Mr. Read or Mr. Flint ay not relish reading to Parliament, setting forth he apprehensions of the people and the facts connec- ed with the attempted fraud upon these Townships. The question is pretty well understood here, and de- end upon it the people will look after their interests t will be hard to steal a march over them at this me of day.

MADOC.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

R. JONES, M.D.,

(PROVINCIAL LICENTIATE),

PHYSICIAN, SURGEON, &c., MADOC, C. W.

Office and Residence—Mr. Anstee's Building, one door West of Mr. R. P. Young's Grocery Store.

LIST OF LETTERS

Remaining in Madoc Post Office up to the 31st of January, 1866.

Allan, Margaret	Harris, Mrs
Bennett, C U	Kehoe, Edward
Bailam, Miss J	Lundy, John
Bennett, H	Lavender, R
Bateman, James & Jno	Lingham, Job (3)
Bell, Jehiel	McInrue, Mrs C
Bacon, R (2)	McGrath, John (2)
Baton, Samuel	McGuire, Mrs Jennett
Bradshaw, David	Mahoney, T
Brown, Wm	Morrison, Hugh (4)
Bradshaw, Martin	Moorecraft, John
Bryant, C B	Moxby, Joseph
Cooleridge & Cameron	McGuire, Mrs Ann
Carman, Elisabeth	McMechan, Wm
Dunn, Geo	Munroe, Miss *S*
Declare, Geo	Mack, Samuel
Donaghuy, Geo	Mortimer, Joseph
Duggan, Robert	Munroe, Henry
Espley, Leahury	Munroe, Lushes (2)
Fitzpatrick, John	McGillvory, Angus
Ferguson, R F	Pringle, W H (2)
Forestall, Chas	Prime, Miss
Genecrieux, S	Prime, Mr
Gherow, Wm	Pringle, Miss M
Gauley, A	Quinlan, Thomas
Gillespie, Mary	Rosebush, Sidney
Hoover, Henry	Reed, John
Hobson, M E	Vankleeed, Benjn
Hicks, Edward	Valluvin, Henery
Hazzard, Joseph (2)	Wannamaker, Mrs S A (2)
Hopkins, James	Wannaker Wm
Hall, J S	Witcher Rev James
Holmes, Peter	

Parties calling for Advertised Letters will please ask for such.

A. F. WOOD, *Postmaster.*

NOTICE.

Mineral Districts Railway.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that APPLICATION will be made at the next Session of the Provincial Parliament for an ACT to Incorporate a Company to BUILD A RAILWAY from BELLEVILLE through the Mineral Regions of North Hastings, by the Valley of the River Moira, and for a grant of Public Lands in aid of the construction thereof. Also for the necessary power enabling said Company to construct a Canal connecting the head waters of the Bay of Quinte with Lake Ontario, through Weller's Bay or otherwise.

T. C. WALLBRIDGE.

Belleville, 20th December, 1865.

DR. RELYEA,

DENTIST, of BELLEVILLE, (or a Competent Assistant from his Office) will visit MADOC *Professionally*, on TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 6th, to remain for one or two Weeks.

L. O. L.

THE BRETHREN of NORTH HASTINGS intend regaling themselves with a SUPPER on the Evening of the SIXTH DAY of FEBRUARY NEXT, that being the day of the annual COUNTY MEETING of the various Lodges in North Hastings.

The Public as well as the Members of the Order are cordially invited to partake of the repast and contribute to the harmony of the occasion. Several parties from a distance are expected to honour the meeting with their presence.

SUPPER at HUDGINS' Hotel, MADOC, at half-past SIX o'Clock.

TICKETS, 60 CENTS.

G. D. RAWE, Sec. of Committee.

Madoc, Jan. 18th, 1866.

STEWART & GILBERT,

SOLICITORS IN CHANCERY, ATTORNEYS-AT-LAW, &c. &c.

OFFICE—In Dafoe's New Brick Building, corner of Front and Bridge Street, BELLEVILLE.

D. E. KINNEAR STEWART. B. S. GILBERT.

MONEY TO LEND

ON EASY TERMS.

APPLY to STEWART & GILBERT, BELLEVILLE.

DR. NICHOL,

AN EXPERIENCED HOMŒOPATHIC PHYSICIAN, SURGEON, and ACCOUCHEUR, may be consulted at his residence on Pinnacle Street, opposite the old Wesleyan Church Belleville, between the hours of 10 A.M. and 2 P.M. each day.

During the past eleven years, Dr. Nichol has paid particular attention to Chronic Diseases, and he has made a special study of Diseases of Children.

Patients suffering from either Acute or Chronic Diseases, seen at their own homes, if required.

Belleville, June 28th, 1865.

☞ TOWN ELECTION.—In consequence of the resignation of Messrs. Jelley and Ball, an election was held at the Jordan on the 29th ult., for the purpose of filling those vacancies in the Township Council. Messrs. R. M. Norman, Thos. J. Potter, John Smith, and Joseph Canniff were nominated. Messrs. Smith and Canniff immediately withdrew, rendering votes unnecessary, and Messrs Norman and Potter were therefore declared to be elected.

☞ NEW STORE AT QUEENSBOROUGH.—We observe that our young friend, Mr. Frederick Mullett, who is well and favourably known in this neighbourhood, has just commenced business at Queensborough, where, as a general storekeeper, he intends to compete with Madoc, as to price, as well as the quality and variety of stock. In this new enterprise we wish him success.

Best and Cheapest Pictures in Belleville at

TERWILLIGAR'S.

PHOTOGRAPHS Finished on the Finest Paper and in the Latest Style, only ONE DOLLAR AND A HALF PER DOZEN (One Dollar Per Dozen Cheaper than anywhere else.)

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Reference—James Fitzgerald, Esq., Barrister-at-Law.

MADOC MARKET PRICES.

SATURDAY, February 3, 1866.

ASHES	$4.50 @ 100 lbs.—1st Sort
BARLEY	80 " None offered. " 2nd
OATS	35 cents.
CORN	55 cents.
WHEAT, Fall	$1.10@1 25
Do., Spring	$1 20@1 30.
RYE	45 cents.
PEAS	55 cents.
HIDES	$5 @ 6½ lbs.
SHEEPSKINS	75@80 cents for fresh.
PORK	6 @ bbl.
BUTTER	10d. @
EGGS	—d.
HAY	$7 per ton.

UMBRA.

A HALF-SUNG SONG.

I am singing in the sunshine:
You are sighing in the shade:
Wherefore sigh when I am singing?
"Shadow is of sunshine made!"

Cynic! Answer! What are shadows,
But the fleeting ghosts of Light?
Night is cradle of the Morning:
"Rather Morn the tomb of Night!"

Nay, then, I will change my measure:
Faith is night, and Hope is Morn:
Noon is Love: behold the zenith!—
"Child! I was not eagle born!"

No! but born of woman, surely,
What am I? O, look, and find,
In my eyes, Love's noon-tide blazing!—
"Haply! Love has long been blind!"

Cruel, cruel! Say, blasphemer,
By what altar do you pray
That is never sun-illumined?—
"Peace! By that of Yesterday!"

A FLIGHT IN THE DARK.

(*Continued.*)

Fool that I was! how egregiously had I allowed myself to be deceived! I had actually taken one of these men for that awful personage, a railway director; whereas the two of them were probably nothing better than a brace of swindlers. With what dire punishment I should be visited when I got back to Mellingshall, I durst not just then pause to contemplate. It was true that I was being carried away against my will; but I had been wrong, in the first place, in allowing a stranger to get on to the engine, and so render it possible for any one to usurp the command placed temporarily in my hands. The mail would be delayed; and when it was discovered that I had absconded with the engine, they would put me down as a lunatic at once. But a few minutes more would bring us to Fallowdene station, at which place I would stop and give the two strangers into custody, and prove my innocence at the same time.

'This sort of thing may seem a pleasant game to you,' I said, turning to the stout stranger; 'but it's deucedly unpleasant for me. You've delayed the mail, and run away with the engine—stolen it, in fact, and laid yourselves open to an indictment for felony. But we shall be at Fallowdene in three minutes, and then you will have an opportunity of explaining to some one higher in authority than me, the meaning of your singular conduct, for I don't intend to drive you any further.'

'Your *naïveté*, my young friend, is really amusing,' said the stout stranger with a grim laugh. 'Understand, once for all, that I, and not you, am master of the situation; and that it is for you to obey my orders implicitly. Refuse to do so, or attempt to play any fool's tricks with the engine, and I will scatter to the winds what little brains you possess, and scrunch your bones under the wheels of your own engine!' At that same instant, I felt the cold barrel of a pistol pressed to my temples; and I staggered back, and should have fallen from the engine, had not the stout man caught me by the collar, and dragged me back.

'There now,' said he good-humouredly, 'you owe me some thanks for having saved your life. Do as I tell you, young man, and you have nothing to fear. I pledge you my word to restore you in safety to your disconsolate friends.'

I saw at once that further resistance just then would be useless; I had better make up my mind to obey the orders of the mysterious stranger, keeping, meanwhile, both eyes and ears on the alert. So, with a shrill whistle, we flew past Fallowdene at full speed; and then I shovelled a lot of coke into the furnace, and poured a little oil here and there among the joints of the machinery, and went quietly about my work, as though no strangers were present, but always keenly observant of what my companions were doing.

'I am glad to find that you have come to your senses so readily,' said the stout man. 'Keep your engine up to the mark, and our journey will be done all the sooner.' So saying, he proceeded to fasten a white woollen comforter round his throat, and to pull on a travelling cap in place of his hat; after which, he lighted a cigar, and turned to look at his friend.

The slim man (gentlemen I call them no longer) had taken no part in the conversation; but seated from the first in one corner, with the despatch-box between his knees, had seemed to take a very despondent view of his position. Him, the stout man now turned to address; but when he spoke, it was in French, evidently that I might not understand what was said; neither of them dreaming that the black greasy-looking stoker behind them was acquainted with more languages than his own.

'How melancholy you look to-night, my friend,' said he; one would think you were in love, so forlorn as you sit there. All our plans have succeeded; and although we missed the train, that is a matter of little moment, since, thanks to our clever *coup-de-main*, we shall not be above half an hour late at our destination; and Peter will surely wait that short time for us. This night, of all nights in the year, you ought to be as merry as a black-bird; for now you have accomplished your revenge—that revenge for which you have been sighing, day and night, for six months past. So cheer up, my child, and be light-hearted, as I am; let the future take care of itself. *Vive la bagatelle!*'

'It is so cold sitting here,' replied the slim man with a shiver, 'with nothing to occupy either one's fingers or one's thoughts.'

'It is because your thoughts are so busily occupied, my friend, that you are so gloomy and *distrait*. But you said you were cold; here, drain this flask, choice cognac, I assure you; not a headache in a bucketful of it. And here, take this overcoat of mine; for myself, I can do just as well without it;' and unheeding the remonstrances of the other, the stout man slipped out of his greatcoat, and inducted his friend into it; then poured a quantity of cognac into the cup of his flask, and made him swallow that; and finished up by insisting that he should try a cigar. But in spite of these friendly attentions, and the cheering words which accompanied them, the slim man remained silent and shivering, brooding over some dark secret, known only to himself and his friend. When the stout man found that all his efforts to cheer the other were unavailing, he turned away with a muttered execration, and troubled himself no further in the matter, but went on smoking his cheroots, and watching all my movements attentively, as though he feared I might play him false.

He asked me the name of each station that we passed, and its distance from Mellingshall; and he became temporarily excited once or twice, when the red light (the signal to stop) was exhibited at some station; at which times I had to slacken speed, and whistle till the green light took its place, when we again put on all steam, and tore on our way. The cold glitter of a pistol-barrel would meet my eye at such times, and a muttered caution would fall on my ear, to beware that I did not attempt any treachery. But the dangerous point once passed, the pistol would disappear for a while, and the stout man would go on smoking more furiously than ever, as if to make up for lost time. He took out his watch once or twice; and when he held it to the lamp to see the hour, I had for the moment a clear view of his face.

He was by no means ill-looking, and seemed to be about forty years old. He wore a thick black moustache, but the rest of his face was closely shaven; he had dark piercing eyes, that seemed to look thro' you; and, for the rest, was, in manners and appearance, as much a gentleman as nine-tenths of those who usurp that honourable title.

I kept the furnace of the Firefly well-supplied with fuel, and she went along at a gallant pace, for I was determined to end this strange journey as soon as possible. Past one mile-post after another, standing whitely out against the dark embankments; with ever and anon a station, big or little, rushing madly up to us, staring at us blankly for a single second, and calling to us with a thousand iron tongues to stop, as it receded swiftly into the darkest space; under bridges innumerable, each of them a span of blackness that vanished in an instant; then into the great tunnel, wrapped and lost in its breath of steam and smoke, awakening its thousand echoes that have little time for sleep; and so out again into the fresh cool night; away—past silent farmstead, and sleeping village, and great furnaces that flare their hearts out to the unheeding stars: onward we went till Burkleigh station was reached, and sixty miles of journey had been achieved.

I gathered from the stout man's observations that he was well acquainted with this part of the country, and that our flight in the dark was now almost ended; indeed, the Firefly, good little engine though she was, could not have held out much longer without a further supply of water.

'Half-way between Burkleigh and the next station,' said the stout man, 'is the point where I wish to stop. You will make your arrangements accordingly: and you will further understand, that when I leave the engine you will accompany me. I cannot afford to dispense with the pleasure of your company just yet.'

Here was a new view of the case with a vengeance! and just as I was calculating how comfortably I could work my way back to Mellingshall, and reach home in time for an early breakfast.

I remonstrated, but to no purpose; he stopped me sternly, and at once. 'Run your engine off the main line on the first siding you come to,' said he; 'and, for the rest, hold your tongue.'

I slackened speed at once; and about a ther on we came to a small branch line colliery some distance away. Here the slim down, and held the points open by my while I ran the Firefly off the main line, and her to a stand. This done, I let off the st raked some of the fire out of the grate, others stood by watching me impatiently. was done that was necessary, the stout man by the shoulder, and addressed me impressive

'Look here, my young friend,' said he, acted sensibly to-night in not disputing my Continue to do as I tell you, and no harm sh you; but attempt to deceive me, or to take leave, and you will have something sent af that will silence you for ever. On one point your mind easy—I am a dead-shot; I never m aim.'

'Go ahead,' said I sulkily; 'you needn't much about your confounded pistol.'

VARIETIES.

Who was the first post-boy?—Cadmus; he letters from Phœnicia to Greece.

"I am on the trail of a dear,' as a gentlem when he trod on a lady's dress.

After all, there are only two sorts of disea a French doctor—of one of which you die, other of which you don't.

Some boys were recently trying to ascer which class of trees the Tree of Knowledge be when one little fellow gave it as his opinion must be a birch tree.

A Paris architect is said to have invented which hardens with time, completely resists he ty, and is said to realise an economy of 50 pe in building.

A drunkard, leaning against a church buildi plied, in answer to a question from the sexton he didn't belong exactly to that church, but h leaning that way.

An old toper, on being taken to task by his neighbours for his supposed [illegible] movement in the village in which he resided, yet that their accusations were unjust, for he had greater personal efforts to put down liquor than of them.

Next to God, we are indebted to woman, first fo itself, and then for making it worth having.

A man proves himself fit to go higher, who that he is faithful where he is. A man that wi do well in his present place because he longs higher, is fit neither to be where he is, nor yet it.

By means of the machine for microscope wh invented by Mr. Peters, it is stated that the "Matthew Marshall, Bank of England," can be ten in the two-and-a-half millionth of an inc length.

Several American men-of-war were lately lyi the harbour at Nice. It was observed that the of seduously avoided mixing with Englishmen Frenchmen, and that they only associated with members of the Russian colony there.

The mineral oil mines just discovered at bridge, in Wiltshire, Eng, have been visited by petent persons, and a favourable opinion has bee pressed by them as to the material found being ad for the manufacture of paraffin oil.

It is estimated that the quantity of mistletoe bro to Manchester during the past Christmas, and re for decorating houses according to custom, exce one hundred tons in weight. In addition to this wards of 200 tons of holly and other evergreens brought into the city, and disposed of for sim purposes.

The last English census develops the curiou that there are more Scotchmen in London th Edinburg, more Irish than in Dublin, more Ro Catholics than in Rome, and more Jews than Palestine.

Some three weeks ago, Adams' Express was rob of $678,000, between New York and New Ha Four of the robbers have been arrested, and $250 have thus far been recovered. The wealthy and managed Company offered to pay the losses in on first receipt of the tidings.

The French government has, it appears, really solved to terminate the extradition treaty with G Britain. While France has, between 1851 and 18 surrendered only fourteen criminals to England, E land surrendered twenty-four to France. None s however, to have been given up since 1858.

AND NORTH RIDING NEWS.

No. 164. MADOC, (HASTINGS CO., C.W.,) SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 1866. PRICE TWO CENTS.

Foundering of the Steamship London.

Loss of Upwards of 200 Lives.

A profound sensation has been created in England by the foundering of the auxiliary screw steamship London, in the Bay of Biscay, with upwards of two hundred souls on board. The vessel, which was an iron one, left the East India docks, London, on the 28th of December, bound for Australia. After a stormy passage down the Channel, she reached Plymouth on Jan. 4th. The boat containing the pilot who was intending to bring the London inside the breakwater was capsized, and the pilot was drowned. The first and second class passengers who had arranged to join the ship at Plymouth having been taken on board, she proceeded on her voyage at midnight on Friday, the 5th, the weather at the time being calm, with a light wind ahead. She had full steam on the whole of Saturday, and the voyage proceeded satisfactorily until Sunday morning, when the wind increased, and a head sea gradually rose, but nothing occurred to create the smallest uneasiness in the minds of any of the officers of the ship. The gale, however, continued to increase in violence, and carried away a number of large spars; and on Tuesday, a tremendous sea struck the ship, and swept the port life-boat clean away from the davits. On the 10th, the captain determined to put the ship about and run back to Plymouth. In half an hour after the ship's course had been altered, she was again struck by a tremendous sea, which carried away the starboard life-boat, and the same sea stove in the starboard cutter. But even now no danger was anticipated. On Wednesday night, however, a mountain of water fell heavily over the waist of the ship and spent its destructive force upon the main hatchway, over the engine-room, completely demolishing it, and flooding with tons of water this portion of the ship. All efforts to repair the damage were unavailing, and in a short time the fires were put out, and the engines stood [illegible] Yoreak on Thursday morning, Captain [illegible] ce cool intrepidity had never for a moment forsaken him, entered the cuddy where all classes of the passengers had now taken refuge, and responding to an universal appeal, calmly announced the cessation of all human hope. It is a remarkable fact that this solemn announcement was as solemnly received—a resigned silence prevailing throughout the assembly, broken only at brief intervals by the well timed and appropriate exhortations of the Rev. Mr. Draper, whose spiritual services had been incessant during the previous twenty-four hours. At 10 o'clock, the ship still rolling heavily, an attempt was made to launch the starboard pinnace, but a sea struck her just as she reached the water, and she sunk, leaving a crew of five men struggling for their lives. Three of them managed to scramble up the sides of the ship, and the other two were rescued by ropes being thrown to them. After this the exhausted crew appeared indifferent to their fate, and no further effort at launching the remaining boat was made until 1 o'clock, when the water having reached the main chains and the ship evidently settling down, the port pinnace was got over the ship's side. Even at this moment the sea was so heavy that those of the passengers who were within reach of the boat appeared to prefer the frail shelter of the sinking vessel to the obvious danger of a small boat in a raging sea. At this crisis, Captain Martin, always at hand, addressing Mr. Greenhill, his chief engineer, under whose command this particular boat was rated, said, 'There is not much chance for the boat; there is none for the ship. Your duty is done; mine is to remain here. Get in and take command of the few it will hold." Thus prompted, Mr. Greenhill, with his fellow engineers and some few others, numbering only nineteen souls, among whom were only three second-class passengers, quitted the ship, with only a few biscuits in the shape of provisions, and not a drop of water. The pinnace had scarcely cleared the wreck of the vessel, upon the poop of which upwards of fifty of the passengers were seen grouped, when a tremendous sea broke over the doomed circle, who, when the ship rose slowly again, were discovered to have been swept into the surging waters. Another moment, and the vessel herself, settling down stern foremost, threw up her bows into the air, and sank beneath the waves.

The men in the pinnace were picked up the next day by an Italian vessel, and carried into Falmouth.

Among the passengers who were lost were the Rev. Dr. Woolley, the new Bishop of Sidney, and G. V. Brooke the well-known actor.

From Europe.

The steamship Africa, from Liverpool on the 20th via Queenstown on the 21st of Jan., arrived at Halifax on the 1st inst.

The recent horrible shipping disaster continues the leading theme of the English journals.

The weather continued stormy.

The steamer London was valued at £85,000. Her cargo was insured for £22,000.

The London Observer says that Mr. Gladstone will dispose of the surplus revenue by removing a number of small articles from the tariff, and by a modification of the sugar duties.

An active search is still going on in Ireland for "head centre" Stephens.

The Army and Navy Gazette believes the final touch has been given to the reduction in the army for the next financial year. It is less than expected. Infantry battalions at home or returning will be reduced two companies. It is said the cavalry will escape the reduction altogether.

The death of Gibson, the eminent sculptor, is announced.

The cattle disease in England continues to increase. The latest returns show that the number attacked in a week approaches 10,000.

The Paris Presse of the 19th announces that Baron Saltard left Paris on the 15th for the purpose of making the necessary arrangements with the Emperor Maximilian for the return of the French troops from Mexico at the earliest possible date.

Notwithstanding the above announcement it is certain that orders, unrevoked, and which are preparing to be acted upon in Toulon, prescribe the sending out of 2,000 or 3,000 more troops.

The London Globe says it is doubtful whether the interest of the Mexican debt will be paid. The funds in Europe are totally exhausted, and it is impossible to raise a new loan.

The Madrid correspondent of the London Times seems to doubt the genuineness of the Spanish revolt. Some are inclined to believe that there is a secret understanding between Prim and O'Donnell, and they imagine the object of the letter was, and is, to frighten the Queen, and lead her to that abdication which he was charged with attempting to force upon her at La Granja.

The steamship Palestine, from Liverpool, arrived at Boston on the 6th inst.

The Emperor Napoleon, in a speech on the 22nd ult., said that arrangements are being made to withdraw the French troops from Mexico, and it is hoped this will pacify the people of the United States, who were invited to join the expedition, but declined, although such expeditions are not opposed to their interests.

The Fenian Conspiracy.

Fenianism, although still regarded by the mass of the British public with indifference or contempt, is nevertheless beginning to create a little more uneasiness on the other side of the Atlantic, as will be seen by the following paragraphs:—

The London Daily News of the 16th ult says:—

"A supplement to the Dublin Gazette, published on Saturday evening, contains notices proclaiming the county and city of Dublin, the county of Tipperary and the county and city of Waterford. The proclamations were posted throughout the city on Tuesday, but were not long up (says the Dublin Express) until they were torn and defaced by having pieces of green paper pasted over the word 'Queen,' making the last sentence read 'God save the Green' Among those which were torn down was one which had been posted at the City Hall, which, we need hardly remind our readers, is in the immediate vicinity of the Castle, and next door to the head police office. Notwithstanding the large force of police promenading the streets, we have not heard of an instance in which the persons who committed those outrages have been arrested. The effects of these proclamations is, from to-day in Dublin, and the 17th in Tipperary and Waterford, it becomes a misdemeanor, punishable by two years' imprisonment, with or without hard labour, for any person to carry or have except in his dwelling house, arms or ammunition of any description, in any of the proclaimed districts. Officers in the various branches of her Majesty's service, special constables, and the holders of game certificates are specially excepted from the provisions of the act. Offenders are liable to be apprehended by any person and delivered into the custody of the police, and the magistrates or the police are empowered to search suspected persons."

The Dublin Freeman's Journal of the 15th has the following:—

"Soon after the proclamation had been published, anxious groups were to be seen collected reading it on all the places where it was posted, and the police received information that pikes, pistols, swords, ammunition, drill books, &c., were being made away with as quickly as possible by concealing them in most ingenious places, or by throwing them into the river and canals. Many who had not read the proclamation attentively, or who had been misinformed concerning it, thought that the search for arms, ammunition, &c., would commence on Sunday; and for that reason the greatest vigilance was exercised by those who were afraid of the police visiting their houses to make an 'overhaul' for pikes, revolvers, rifles, &c. On Sunday evening some constables of the E division proceeded to a field in the neighbourhood of Harold's Cross, where in a hay stack they found twenty pikes, ready for immediate service. In the same locality, on the road, a bundle was found, which, on being opened, was discovered to consist of a military cloak, composed of superfine green cloth, with red facings, and secured at the collar with a solid gold chain and clasps; also two green tunics with red facings, bearing the initials of the "Irish Republic." All this uniform was elegantly finished, and was evidently the property of some person who had recently returned from America, as the cloth and style of workmanship are foreign. In the Grand Canal uniform coats of a similar kind were found."

Extraordinary precautions against the conspiracy have been taken in London. The Shipping Gazette of the 15th says:—

"Recent events have convinced the government that the dangers from Fenianism are not confined to Ireland. London is no safer than Dublin and it has been thought necessary to take extraordinary precautions in the public offices to guard against fire. The late great fire in St. Katherine's dock was always believed to be the work of an incendiary, and common rumour now asserts the criminal's political creed was summed up in the word Fenian. A repetition of this catastrophe in the Custom-house and the government offices in Somerset House is dreaded by the authorities, and extra divisions of police are consequently sent in to patrol the buildings by night. A police galley is also moored opposite the Custom-house, from which a watch is kept on the quays, and any attempt on the building from the river would be frustrated. There may possibly be no foundation for the rumour upon which these steps have been taken, but the fact of so much having been done proves that the indifference of the general public is not shared by the officers of the government."

The plan of invading Canada is not to the taste of all the American Fenians—it would be something they had not bargained for; nor does it appear to be at all relished by their Canadian sympathisers:—

DETROIT, Feb. 3.—At a meeting of the Detroit circle of the Fenian brotherhood resolutions were adopted condemning the senate regarding the designs on Canada as unjust and detrimental to their cause; endorsing the action of the convention in abolishing the Philadelphia constitution and declaring entire confidence in O'Mahony.

NEW YORK, Feb. 3.—The Herald's special Toronto despatch says the Canadian Fenians have issued an address to the American brotherhood, endorsing the O'Mahony faction, and declaring the true and only object of the movement to be the freedom of Ireland, and denouncing the proposition, to go to Ireland by the way of Canada.

Gen. Sweeney and Col. Roberts lately addressed a large meeting of Fenians in Cleveland. The former did not refer to the invasion which he threatened at the late Buffalo meeting, but Roberts in the course of his address said:—"The time for mincing matters has gone by, and he would be willing to hang captured enemies while their friends held in loathsome bondage so many of his Irish brethren. England occupied a position to-day she never before occupied, and if they succeed in placing arms in the hands of their Irish brethren beyond the water, or secure a foothold upon a certain and suitable place, which he declined to name, America would recognize them as belligerents—then good bye England."

Other speakers addressed the meeting upon the feasibility of the proposed plan—an attack upon Canada doubtless.

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Failure of the Reciprocity Negotiations.

NEW YORK, Feb. 7.—The Post's special telegram from Washington says that the Ways and Means committee has entirely failed to conclude an agreement with the Canadians in relation to the reciprocity treaty. The propositions submitted by the delegation from Canada have been rejected, and counter propositions from the committee were rejected by the Canadians.

THE MADOC MERCURY
AND NORTH RIDING NEWS.

MADOC, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10.

The Fenian "Invasion."

The past week has been a somewhat exciting one in the frontier towns, in consequence of a rumour that authentic information had been received by the Commander-in-chief, that the long-threatened invasion under Gen. Sweeny might be expected to come off within that period. As the exact point of attack was not known, the Volunteers at all easily accessible points appear to have been kept in readiness for service at a moment's notice, and well supplied with a sufficient quantity of ball cartridge. All leave of absence to military officers has been suspended; and trains, it is said, are kept ready to transport troops at short notice by railroad, to any point where their services may be required.

A small ripple of the prevailing excitement reached Madoc on Saturday night, when, by way of Belleville, it was currently reported that 35,000 Fenians were congregated at Cape Vincent, with the intention of marching over the ice to Kingston, where their presence was hourly expected—all business being suspended, and the banks having removed their money to the Fort. The further the rumour travelled, the more wonderful grew its proportions, so that at last, we understand, the people on the Hastings road were firmly convinced that Belleville itself was in the hands of the Fenians!—Beyond the fact that the Volunteers, as above stated, have been supplied with ammunition and notified to hold themselves in readiness, there seems to be no foundation whatever for these rumours. The telegraph reports a destructive fire at Cape Vincent on the 7th inst., but not a word about Fenians—few or many—being there at all; and although the Toronto dailies have duly chronicled excitement at Hamilton, Brockville and other places, they are silent as to the alleged great scare in Kingston.

Among other rumours set afloat was one that Gen. Sweeny had passed through Hamilton, and was very nearly being arrested by the Mayor of that city. Of soldiers with bayonets are enrolled for the invasion of Canada. Gen. Sweeny has ordered them to be in readiness for immediate marching orders.—In spite of this, and public appeals in Buffalo for arms for "the thousands of brave men" who are ready to take the field, we are strongly inclined to suspect that in view of the preparations made for their reception, and the disinclination of their sympathisers in the Province to have the struggle for the liberation of Ireland commenced in Canada, they will conclude "discretion to be the better part of valour;" and, confining themselves to "tall talk," will wisely keep their bodies within the limits of the United States.

Madoc Agricultural Society.

The following is the concluding portion of the Report adopted at the last annual general meeting:—

The Directors of the Madoc Agricultural Society have much pleasure in being enabled to submit a more favourable report of the state of the Society than they were able to make last year. There is certainly a much greater interest taken in the Society; and as the welfare of the country is materially promoted by such institutions, your Directors hope that all persons interested in agriculture and the breed of stock will support the Society by becoming members, so as to enable the Society (when the funds are sufficient) to introduce new and purer blood into this section of the country. Your Directors also hope that all members will attend meetings when called to do so, as attention to the business of the Society must be conducive to its prosperity.

The number of members for 1865 was 63, being an increase of 1864 of 16.*

The number of entries at the Show in 1865 was 170, being an increase over the year 1864 of 50, thus showing that more interest is taken in the society.

The amount paid for premiums in 1865 was $105 90, being $34 30 over the sum expended in 1864.

Your Directors are happy to say that the plan of furnishing subscribers with the "Canada Farmer" has been eminently successful.

[illegible] the statement of receipts and disbursements, it [illegible] a balance amounting to $50 07½ remains to the credit of the Society.

JOHN TASSIE, Chairman.

C. GREAM, Secretary.

* Several have joined since 1865.

NORTH HASTINGS COUNTY ORANGE LODGE.—The annual meeting of the above Lodge was held in this village on Tuesday, when the following officers for the present year were elected:—John N. Moore, County Master; George Rose, Deputy Master; Thos. Emo, Secretary; W. Ward, Treasurer; Lyman Moon, Director of Ceremonies; Rev. J. A. Dowler, Chaplain.

OYSTER SUPPER.—On Tuesday evening, many of the members of the various Orange Lodges in North Hastings, with several invited guests, to the number altogether of about eighty, partook of a supper, got up in capital style at W. Hudgins' Hotel.—The chair was occupied by E. Mouncy, Esq., supported by Messrs. Emo, Irvine, J. N. Moore, James Haggerty, jr., W. Ward, and G. D. Rawe; and the vice-chair by W. H. Carpenter, Esq.—After the liberal supply of refreshments had been duly discussed, the usual loyal toasts were given, as well as others in honour of the retiring and the incoming office-bearers of the County Lodge, and of distinguished members of the Orange association in Ireland and Canada; which were replied to by Messrs. Emo, Moore, Haggerty, Rawe, and Gream.—Remarks were also made by A. F. Wood Esq., Warden, J. R. Ketcheson, Esq., and Messrs. C. Jones, Joseph Fitzgerald, Dr. Loomis, and other invited guests; which were freely interspersed with songs by Dr. Elmer, and Messrs. T. Skeuse, G. Rose, S. Ross, Rawe, Conifere, Chard and others.—The company separated about eleven o'clock, not forgetting, before their departure, to pass an unanimous vote of thanks to the Host and Hostess for the excellence of the entertainment provided.

LECTURE.—The Rev. J. Climie will deliver his promised lecture on "God in Geology," in the Good Templars' Hall, on Friday evening next, 16th inst.

CHURCH OF ENGLAND TEA-MEETING.—We understand that Wednesday, the 21st inst., is the date appointed for the above Tea-meeting.

Bailam, Miss J	Lundy, John
Bennett, H	Lavender, R
Bateman, James & Jno	Lingham, Job (3)
Bell, Jehiel	McLure, Mrs C
Bacon, R (2)	McGrath, John (2)
Baton, Samuel	McGuire, Mrs Jennett
Bradshaw, David	Mahoney, T
Brown, Wm	Morrison, Hugh (4)
Bradshaw, Martin	Mootecraft, John
Bryant, C B	Moxby, Joseph
Cooleridge & Cameron	McGuire, Mrs Ann
Carman, Elisabeth	McMechan, Wm
Dunn, Geo	Munroe, Miss S
Declare, Geo	Mack, Samuel
Donaghuy, Geo	Mortimer, Joseph
Dougan, Robert	Munroe, Henry
Espley, Leahury	Munroe, Lushes (2)
Fitzpatrick, John	McGillvory, Angus
Ferguson, R T	Pringle, W H (2)
Forestall, Chas	Prime, Miss
Generieux, S	Prime, Mr
Gherow, Wm	Pringle, Miss M
Gauley, A	Quinlan, Thomas
Gillespie, Mary	Rosebush, Sidney
Hoover, Henry	Reed, John
Hobson, M E	Vankleeed, Benjn
Hicks, Edward	Valluvin, Henery
Hazzard, Joseph (2)	Wannamaker, Mrs S A (2)
Hopkins, James	Wamaker Wm
Hall, J S	Witcher Rev James
Holmes, Peter	

Parties calling for Advertised Letters will please ask for such.

A. F. WOOD, *Postmaster.*

NOTICE.

Mineral Districts Railway.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that APPLICATION will be made at the next Session of the Provincial Parliament for an ACT to Incorporate a Company to BUILD A RAILWAY from BELLEVILLE, through the Mineral Regions of North Hastings, by the Valley of the River Moira, and for a grant of Public Lands in aid of the construction thereof. Also for the necessary power enabling said Company to construct a Canal, connecting the head waters of the Bay of Quinte with Lake Ontario through Weller's Bay or otherwise.

T. G. WALLBRIDGE.

Belleville, 20th December, 1865.

R. [illegible] M.D.,
(PROVINCIAL LICENTIATE),

PHYSICIAN, SURGEON, &c., MADOC, C. W.
OFFICE AND RESIDENCE—Mr. Anstee's Building, one door West of Mr. R. P. Young's Grocery Store.

DR. RELYEA,

DENTIST, of BELLEVILLE, (or a Competent Assistant from his Office) will visit MADOC Professionally, on TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 6th, to remain for one or two Weeks.

STEWART & GILBERT,

SOLICITORS IN CHANCERY, ATTORNEYS-AT-LAW, &c. &c.
OFFICE—In Dafoe's New Brick Building, corner of Front and Bridge Street, BELLEVILLE.
D. E. KINNEAR STEWART. B. S. GILBERT.

MONEY TO LEND
ON EASY TERMS.
APPLY to STEWART & GILBERT,
BELLEVILLE.

DR. NICHOL,

AN EXPERIENCED HOMŒOPATHIC PHYSICIAN, SURGEON, and ACCOUCHEUR, may be consulted at his residence on Pinnacle Street, opposite the old Wesleyan Church, Belleville, between the hours of 10 A.M. and 2 P.M. each day.
During the past eleven years, Dr. Nichol has paid particular attention to Chronic Diseases, and he has made a special study of Diseases of Children.
Patients suffering from either Acute or Chronic Diseases can be seen at their own homes, if required.
Belleville, June 28th, 1865.

Best and Cheapest Pictures in Belleville at
TERWILLIGAR'S.

PHOTOGRAPHS Finished on the Finest Paper and in the Latest Style, only ONE DOLLAR AND A HALF PER DOZEN (One Dollar Per Dozen Cheaper than anywhere else.)
AMBROTYPES, FERROTYPES, and all other kind of Pictures taken in the latest style and at the lowest prices.
Call and Examine Specimens at his Rooms, opposite VICTORIA BUILDINGS, Belleville.

Executed at the
"MERCURY"
OFFICE, MADOC,
(The Only Printing Establishment in the North Riding,)
With Neatness and Dispatch.

SUPPORT THE LOCAL INSTITUTIONS!!

MEDICAL HALL.
DURHAM STREET, MADOC.
C. G. WILSON,
CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST.

DR. J. S. LOOMIS,
Of McGill College,
HAS OPENED AN OFFICE in the Village of MADOC, in Mr. WEISS'S New Building, opposite WILSON'S Medical Hall.
All Calls will be promptly attended to.

FOR SCHOOL BOOKS, STATIONERY,
AND CHILDREN'S BOOKS,
At Publishers' Prices, Call At
WILSON'S DRUG STORE,
DURHAM STREET. MADOC.

A. F. WOOD,
MARRIAGE LICENSE AGENT,
MADOC.

J. R. KETCHESON,
Township Clerk,
WILL be at the TOWN-HALL, MADOC, every SATURDAY, to attend to the business of the Township.

MR. GREAM,
(Solicitor and Attorney of the Chancery and Law Courts of England)
Conveyancer, Coroner, &c.

[illegible] that the undersigned JAS. FITZGERALD,
on his
ATTORNEY AND CONVEYANCER
MADOC.

C. E. RANKIN,
Provincial Land Surveyor,
Civil Engineer, &c.
OFFICE, Hudgins' Hotel, Madoc.
Reference—James Fitzgerald, Esq., Barrister-at-Law.

FOR SALE, OR TO LET,
THE HOUSE on the North side of KELLAR'S BRIDGE. It is well adapted and situated for a
GENERAL STORE,
Being eight miles distant from the Village of Hastings, on the new Gravel Road to Tudor. Six Acres of Land attached.
For TERMS, inquire at the MERCURY Office.

MADOC MARKET PRICES.

SATURDAY, February 10, 1866.

ASHES	$4.50 @ 100 lbs., 1sts
	$ " 2nd
BARLEY	None offered.
OATS	35 cents.
CORN	55 cents.
WHEAT, Fall	$1,10@1 2
Do., Spring	$1 @0 00
RYE	45 cents.
PEAS	55 cents.
HIDES	$5 @ 100 lbs.
SHEEPSKINS	75@80 cents for fresh.
PORK	$ @ bbl.
BUTTER	10d. @
EGGS	—d.
HAY	$7 per ton.

GRAND TRUNK RAILWAY.

The following is the Time Table of the passenger trains on the Grand Trunk Railway at the Belleville Station:

Day Express going East, 11. 25 A. M.
Night Express going East, 10. 03 P. M.
Mixed Train going East, 10. 57 P. M.
Day Express going West, 7. 15 P. M.
Night Express going West, 7. 15 A. M.
Mixed Train going West, 11. 20 A. M.
Montreal Time.

RECEIPTS.

D. Nicholson, Collector, 1864	$2460 56	
Do do 1865	2195 37	
Do do Back Taxes, including $125 received by Treasurer for the Russell Estate, from M. P. Hayes	192 00	
Wild Land Taxes, collected by County Treasurer, and Sales	606 75	
SEED GRAIN, received by Treasurer	2526 28	
Do do by D. Campbell	323 31	
		8304 27
Clergy Reserve	206 72	
Government Grant for Schools	430 00	
Land Improvement Fund	11 00	
Hon. B. Flint, for Prizes	10 00	
Proceeds of Bank Note	396 86	
		1054 58
TAVERN LICENSES:—		
Lyman Moon	25 00	
William Hudgins	25 00	
James Maitland	25 00	
Obadiah Johnson, for 1864	10 00	
SHOP LICENSES:—		
Deans & Gray	20 00	
R. P. Young	20 00	
A. Wright	20 00	
John Dale, Tavern and License Inspector	8 25	
		153 25
FINES FROM JUSTICES:—		
A. F. Wood	13 00	
W. H. Tumelty	3 00	
James O'Hara	2 00	
John Dale	2 00	
B. Vankleeck	2 00	
		22 00
D. Nicholson, discount on silver		5 00
W. Ward, for paupers		2 00
Total Receipts		$9541 10

EXPENDITURE.

BALANCE due Treasurer, Jan. 1, 1865		$118 70
ROADS AND BRIDGES		229 15
COUNTY TREASURER:—		
County Taxes for 1864	2278 98	
Do do 1865	1477 84	
On Grain Account	2834 00	
		6590 82
Bank Note, dated Aug. 17, 1865		410 00
SCHOOLS:—		
County Assessment	430 00	
Government Grant	417 38	
Prizes for Schools	20 00	
		867 38
SCHOOL TRUSTEES		126 08
COURT OF REVISION		24 00
SELECTING JURORS		12 00
COUNCILLORS' PAY LIST		67 50
SALARIES:—		
J. R. Ketcheson, Clerk, balance, '64	29 50	
Do do do 1865	85 50	
Thomas Allen, Assessor	40 00	
J. N. Moore, do	40 00	
D. Nicholson, Collector, 1864	80 00	
John Dale, Tavern Inspector	20 00	
Do Inspecting 6 Taverns	6 00	
D. Nicholson, coll.'g Back Taxes	15 00	
E. Mourey, Treasurer	81 53	
Do do Seed Grain	45 00	
J. H. Dunn, Auditor	6 00	
Charles Gream, do	6 00	
		454 53
PAUPERS:—		
Samuel Daw	60 00	
Donald Cameron	30 00	
Katharine McBeath	50 00	
Mrs. Franklin	5 00	
Mrs. McLeod	5 00	
Mrs. Murphy	10 00	
Mrs. Weese	0 50	
Mrs. Conway	10 85	
B. Dyer	0 50	
Cooney	2 25	
		173 60
MISCELLANEOUS:—		
H. Grist, obtaining Land Tax Improvement Fund	1 00	
S. Embury, Constable at election	2 00	
G. D. Rawe, Poll Clerk	4 00	
J. Bateman, rent of lock-up, '64	10 00	
G. W. Rose, wood for Town Hall	3 00	
A. Smallfield, for printing, &c.	48 25	
J. Dale, attending Court on prosecution on Tavern by-laws	2 00	
Daniel McCaffery, taxes refunded	2 25	
J. R. Ketcheson, Ret'ng Officer	8 00	
Do Voters' List	10 00	
C. G. Wilson, Stationery	3 74	
Jonathan Sleeper, setting 51 Lights at Town Hall	2 00	
James Maitland, License refunded	10 00	
H. Price, masonry, foundation of Town Hall	15 10	
J. Ullman, seed grain refunded	0 90	
H. Dingman, taxes refunded	0 82½	
P. F. McCollum, do	2 75	
J. Pitts, do	0 55	
Discount on Silver	18 70	
		145 06½
Total expenditure		$9218 82½
Balance in Treasurer's hands		322 27½
		$9541 10

Receipts brought down	$9541 10
Expenditure do	9218 82½
Balance on hand	$322 27½

We have examined the within Accounts with the Vouchers produced, and find the same correct. The balance in the Treasurer's hands on the 31st December, 1865, amounts to $322 27½, besides Two Notes, one bearing date Dec. 20th, 1859, drawn by John Long and P. Vankleeck, on which is due $10 and interest; and the other dated Dec. 26, 1861, drawn by A. Guneolas and T. Allen, on which is due $20.88 and interest.

JOHN H. DUNN,
CHARLES GREAM, } Auditors.

MADOC, Feb. 1st, 1866

The river rolleth red.
The flowers are drenched in floating haze,
The churchyard brightens, and old days
Seem smiling on the dead.

From pendent boughs, like drops of gold,
The peaches hang. The mansion old,
From out its coat of green,
Looks joyful through its golden eyes
Back on the sunset burnished skies,
A smile o'er all the scene.

The running child, whose wavy hair
Takes from the sunset's level glare
A purer, brighter tinge,
Rolls on the grass; the evening star
Above you streak of cloudy bar
Hangs on Day's purple fringe.

Where latest sunshine slanting falls,
Above the irried orchard walls,
The tall tree-shadows lean,
In waving lines of shade, that nod
Like dusky streams across the road
With banks of light between.

The streams are gilt, the towering vane
Stands burnished; and the cottage pane
Seems melting in the sun;
The last lark wavers down the sky,
The husky crow slides careless by,
The golden day is done.

A FLIGHT IN THE DARK.

(Continued.)

The stout man replied with a laugh, and slinging the dispatch-box by a strap over his shoulder, led the way at a quick pace from the branch-line over a track of rising ground, out on to a wide stretch of bleak moorland, intersected by several roads, never hesitating for a moment as to the path he ought to take, but leading the way so confidently as though he were familiar with every inch of the ground, which probably he was. I followed close behind, and with the slim man brought up the rear. After walking thus for a mile or two, we came to a plantation of firs, the edge of which skirted the road we were traversing. The stout man whistled twice in a peculiar way, and we all stood still to listen. In a moment the response came—a similar whistle, and close at hand. Next we heard the noise of wheels, an I presently a carriage of some kind came out of a narrow lane, that ran by one end of the plantation, and drove slowly up to where we were standing. As well as I could make out by that light it seemed nothing more than an ordinary hackney-coach, with perhaps a better horse than common in the shafts; while, as for the driver, he was so thoroughly muffled up, that it would have been impossible to recognise him again. He began to swear at us, as soon as he got near enough to be heard, for having kept him waiting so long; but at a few whispered words from the stout man, his objurgations lapsed into a muttered curse or two, and then died away in sulky silence. We three pedestrians, together with the dispatch-box, were quickly inside the cab; the windows were closed, and the blinds pulled down; and we were off at a good pace, which was kept up without break or rest for what seemed to me a very long time, till at last we rattled over the paved streets of some town, and about five minutes later came to a stand. I had some acquaintance with that part of the country, and I knew that within a radius of fifteen miles from the point where we left the engine, three country towns were situated, all of them busy, populous places. To which of these three towns had I been taken? On this point I was as helpless to form a judgment as if I had been born blind.

On alighting from the vehicle, I had only time to take one hasty glance round, and to observe that we had been driven into a small court or enclosed yard, overlooked by high gloomy buildings on every side, when a door in front of us was silently opened, and we all went in. The door seemed to close of its own accord behind us; and the next moment a light appeared at the further end of the long passage in which we were standing, carried by one of the most singular-looking beings these eyes have ever beheld. He seemed, at the first glance, more like a resuscitated corpse than anything else; he was very old, and very withered, with a wicked shrivelled-up little face—the face of a century-old ape, lighted up with two eyes, so restless, cunning, and suspicious, that they seemed to distrust everybody, himself included. He was dressed in an old red flannel dressing-robe, which fell in voluminous folds to his slippered feet, while his cadaverous jaws were bound up in a dirty white handkerchief, fastened in a huge knot to the top of his head, on which a few spiky hairs were still sparsely scattered. Holding the lamp above his head with a shaking hand, he grinned a hideous welcome to us.

'Friends of yours, did you say? But are they safe, Mr. William—are they safe?'

Chattering thus, the old man led the way into a large but plainly furnished room, where a table was laid ready for supper, showing that the arrival of one or more had been expected. Another plate was quickly brought, and the slatternly-looking middle-aged woman who waited upon us served up a plain, substantial supper, to which we all did ample justice. The slim man seemed, if such a thing were possible, to grow more moody and despondent with every mouthful that he ate. Behind his chair stood Black Care, the terrible, the unbidden, and poisoned the contents of cup and platter with a touch of its skeleton finger. As for the old man, he mumbled and jabbered away in his apish inane fashion, unheeded by everybody, Mr. William being just then too much preoccupied with his own thoughts to pay the least attention to him.

When supper was over, Mr. William and the old man left the room together; but in a few minutes, the former came to the door, and beckoned to me to follow him. I accordingly stumbled after him up a long dark flight of stairs, and I was finally ushered into a room having a small camp bedstead in one corner; while close to the brightly blazing fire stood a large easy chair and a small table, in the former of which the old man was already seated.

'You will have to make yourself comfortable here for the night,' said the stout man, turning to me. 'That bed is at your service: and here,' patting the old man on the shoulder, 'is one who will attend to your requirements. Good night, and pleasant dreams.'

So saying, he quitted the room, locking the door behind him; and I was left alone with the old man, who grinned and nodded his withered head at me; and pointing to a chair in the opposite corner, invited me, in a shrill quavering voice, to come and sit down by the fire, unless I felt disposed to go to bed at once. As I never felt less inclined for sleep in my life, I drew the chair up to the fire, and sat down opposite the old boy, who was busy concocting a basin of gruel for himself, he having taken no part in the supper down stairs. I tried him with a few questions, being specially desirous to know how long it was probable that I should be detained there against my will; but at each of my queries, the old rascal put on a vacant puzzled look, and replied with something altogether irrelevant to my question, so that, after one or two futile efforts to get a sensible answer, I gave up the task in despair, and watched him in gloomy silence while he took his gruel, seasoned largely with cognac.

Sitting thus, I heard from some far-off steeple the faint tones of a clock tell the hour of three, and I remembered for the first time that it was Sunday morning. It would not be daylight yet for three hours. Following close upon the striking of the clock came the rumble of a distant cab or mail-cart, rattling over the paved streets; there was a pleasant sense of companionship in the sound that spoke warmly to my heart, and brought with it an intense longing to escape.

To escape! was such a thing possible? My heart throbbed, and the blood rushed to my face when I first asked myself the question; so that when I looked up, and saw the old man's suspicious eyes fixed intently on me, I felt as if my hidden thoughts were discovered. But I sat very still, and strove to look as unconcerned as possible; and when the old man was again busy with his gruel, I set to work to evolve quietly out of my brain some plan of deliverance. The door, as I have already said, was locked on the outside; but even had it been otherwise, to venture down through the lower parts of the house would have been a most dangerous proceeding. The window, then, was the point to be considered. This was secured inside by stout shutters, but there would be no difficulty in opening them; the only real obstacle lay in the fact of the window being so high above the ground—far too high for me to drop from. Then there was the old man to dispose of; that, indeed was the first thing to do, for once let him give the alarm, and all my efforts would be fruitless.

I sat brooding intently for half an hour, at the end of which time I had thought out a plan which seemed to me the only one at all feasible. There were some small pieces of wood lying on the hearth, fragments left after the fire had been lighted. I picked up one of these, and in the course of a few minutes had fashioned it with my pocket knife into a sort of rude spatula, round which I tied a piece of stout string that I found in one of my pockets. The old man sat

VARIETIES.

The man who "carries everything before h
The waiter.

"What are you writing such a big hand for,
—Why, you see that my grandmother is d
I'm writing a loud letther to her."

What metamorphosis does a washerwoman
go in the night?—She goes to bed a washerw
and gets up fine linen.

The Portland Argus asks: Why was Herod's
ther's) wife like a Fenian organization? The
is: Because she had a head sent her.

A writer complains that though his boy came
from school with a classical prize, he did not
what his father meant by telling him to get
parietas. The parent wanted change for a sove

Reporters ought to be more careful. In the
of a down East Agricultural Fair, occurs the
ing: "Best bed comforter—Miss Mary Hall."

It is said that the marriage of the Princess
mar with the Cæsarawich will take place at M
during next summer, and that the Prince and
cess of Wales will be present on that occasion.
transfer of affection from one brother to the
was not apparently a difficult matter.

One of the prettiest of Christmas custom
Norwegian practice of giving on Christmas day
ner to the birds. On Christmas morning every
gateway, and barn door is decorated with a sh
corn fixed on the top of a pole, wherefrom it is
ed that the birds shall make their Christmas-di

An exchange paper gives reasons for not publ
a poetic effusion: "The rhythm sounds like
kins rolling over a barn floor, while some lines
to have been measured with a yard stick and
with a ten foot pole."

At one of our recent Christmas celebrations
the wax candles on the Christmas-tree was le
slightly. A little boy, fresh from his geograph
marked "that it resembled the Tower of
"Yes," said another, "except that one is a to
Italy, and the other a tower in grease."

"I don't see," said Mrs. Partington, as the
home from school, an' [illegible] and his jacket into a corner, [illegible] his cap on to
saying that he didn't get the medal; "I don
dear, why you didn't get the medal, for certain
more meddlesome boy I never knew."

The population of Paris is now slightly above
that of London—namely, 1,667,841, and has as
as possible doubled since 1832—that is in 33 ye
when London had exactly the population which
has now. It seems therefore that the two great
tals are increasing at an equal rate, but Paris, if
thing, the faster—as London scarcely exceeds
000 yet, even allowing for the increase since 18

About seven years since, a brother and sister,
respectively eight and ten years, and named Gud
commenced rag-picking; and, being orphans
without relatives, they rented a small room in
upper part of Cincinnati, and strove strenuous
make a livelihood. They have succeeded in d
more, for their account in bank foots up with
small amount of $4,000. They contemplate re
ing to Indiana, and undertaking the cares and
sponsibilities of a farm.

A CONSISTENT TEETOTALLER.—A short time
weaver, believed in the district to be a staunch
totaller, dropped into a spirit dealer's shop in a
lage in the Upper Ward, not far from that in w
he resided. The publican was much astonishe
the call, and more so when his visitor ordered
and a gill of whiskey. Having been served
these he tore a piece out of the roll, and after
ing the whiskey into it ate the bread. On
asked by Boniface what he meant by this extra
nary proceeding, he answered that the pledge
vented him from drinking whiskey, but not
eating it!—*Greenock Advertiser.*

Theodore Hook was relating to his friend, Ch
Mathews, how, on one occasion, when supping
company of Peake, the latter surreptitiously rem
from his plate several slices of tongue; and, a
ing to be very much annoyed by such prac
joking, Hook concluded with the question, "
Charles, what would you do to anybody who tre
you in such a manner?" "Do?" exclaimed
thews; "why, if any man meddled with my te
eating it!—I'd lick him."

THE MADOC MERCURY
AND NORTH RIDING NEWS.

165. MADOC, (HASTINGS CO., C.W.) SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 1866. PRICE TWO CENTS.

From Europe.

Canadian steamship Peruvian, from Liverpool 25th, via Londonderry Jan. 26th, arrived d on the 8th inst.

cattle disease is increasing. The number of in the weekly return, ending Jan. 20th, for the e exceeded 10,000.

Star says that France lately, at the suggestion. lieved, of the Austrian cabinet, suggested to d the conditions of a new conference on the swig-Holstein question. Earl Russell expressed f unfavorable to the proposition for the pre- nless under certain peculiar conditions. The for the present is therefore at an end.

publication of the full notes of Gordon's trial sica caused great indignation. Many journals m that all law was violated, and that Gordon urdered. Even the Times says that the evi- nuses it to regret that Gordon was not in lictyl lar form, and tried according to the forms of judge and jury.

her disastrous coal mine explosion had oc- near Wigan. Thirty lives were lost.

Paris correspondent of the London Times minute account of the circumstances under the Emperor Napoleon dispatched M. Lalliard pecial mission to Mexico. He was hurried to nce, where the Emperor said he wanted him to without delay for Mexico with a message from Maximilian, that he considered that he (Na-) had fulfilled all the obligations imposed on nd that the time had now arrived when Maximi- ust depend upon his own resources without the f the French army. M. Lalliard asked for redentials, but the Emperor observed that as no necessity for any documents, all he had was simply to represent to Maximilian the con on he had just had, and that would suffice. He mended M. Lalliard, moreover, to lose no time ing out for Mexico, but to depart by the first er.

correspondent says:—"Napoleon never does ing without some good and substantial reason. that reason is in the present instance in sending oy to Mexico with only verbal instructions, no lf only knows."

N.—It is said that the Spanish fleet in the is to be increased.

essel in the Thames, on the point of sailing for was detained at the instance of the Spanish . It is alleged she designed to make war on ish commerce under the Chilian flag.

Madrid despatch, dated January 22nd, says that Prim entered Portugal on the 20th ult., deliver the horses and equipments of his followers to the de of Cinasola.—It is stated that when he en- Portugal, he had only 300 out of the 800 fol- with whom he originally started. The Portu- government threatened to allow the Spanish to pursue should he cross the frontier armed. consequence of disturbances at Valencia, that ce has been proclaimed in a state of siege.

reported that Chilian privateers have appeared lencia, and chased coasting vessels. The Spa- ress denounces them as pirates.

TRALIA.—Melbourne, Dec. 26.—Intense excite- in South Australia in consequence of the Chi- ar, and all sales of copper have been stopped. rebels on the east coast of New Zealand have defeated and surrendered.

steamship Australasian, from Liverpool on the ult., arrived at New York on the 29th ult. Monck, Governor-General of Canada, was a nger.

nature of the Reform bill continued to be ac- discussed. The Times shows hostility to a rate measure, and contends that a bill which deals with the franchise will not deserve the of a Reform bill.

Dublin police had seized a number of swords bayonets in an Orange lodge. Arms had also eized at Belfast.

victions were almost daily before the Fenian ission at Dublin, but the trials excited very public interest.—It is mentioned as an unpleasantly suggestive circumstance, that since the county of Dublin has been proclaimed, many of the malcontents have migrated elsewhere, and have carried the taint of their doctrines into a new field, where they have more freedom of action. Arms have also been shifted from proclaimed to non-proclaimed districts.

The Fenian Conspiracy.

A WARNING.—We have been permitted to take the following extract from a private letter received by a gentleman in this city on Saturday from his son, who is at present in Cincinnati:—"Dear father, I have a good deal to say to you which it would be imprudent to put on paper with regard to the movements and intentions of the Fenians in this country. I wish you to make it known amongst all you can depend on that there will be a raid on Canada before long. Indeed you are not sure of the moment it will take place. And further, there are some of your soldiers who will turn out against their country and betray you all. I hope everybody in Toronto is ready to give the scamps a warm reception; and I will make one of many others here to help in your defence. I wish you also to make this statement known to those who can make it public; for it is said amongst the party that the green flag will float over the cathedral on King street not long from now. The Fenians here have guns, cannon, powder and ball, and it will behove you all to be on the alert."—*Toronto Leader.*

If any are inclined to be alarmed by the above warning, they will feel re-assured by reading the following intelligence, from late English papers:—

It is stated that Mr. Adams has assured Lord Clarendon that the United States government is closely watching the acts of the Fenians, and that any overt proceeding of hostility will be prevented. Mr. Adams further avers that Feninism in America is on the decline, and that it will soon subside. If, however, it should last beyond April, the United States government will take the necessary steps to prevent any further open conspiracy against England. In the event—which Mr. Adams regards as most improbable—of the Fenians sending out any cruisers, the United States will regard such cruisers as pirates.

The Reciprocity Negotiations.

The Washington correspondent of the New York Herald furnishes the following, as the American propositions for the continuance of a limited sort of reciprocal free trade between the United States and the British American Provinces:—

In response to the memorandum of the Hon. Mr. Galt and his associates, Hon. Mr. Smith, Hon. Mr. Henry, and the Hon. Mr. Howland, the Committee on Ways and Means, with the approval of the Secretary of the Treasury, are prepared to recommend to the House of Representatives for their adoption a law providing for the continuance of some of the measures embraced in the Reciprocity Treaty, soon to expire, viz:—For the use and privileges as enjoyed now under said treaty in the waters of Lake Michigan, provided the same rights and privileges are conceded to the citizens of the United States by Canada in the waters of the St. Lawrence and its canals as are enjoyed by British subjects, without discrimination as to tolls and charging rates as to canal distance; also for the free transit of goods, wares and merchandise in bond, under proper regulations, by railroad across the territory of the United States to and from Portland and the Canadian line; provided equal privileges shall be conceded to the United States from Windsor or Port Sarnia, or other western points of departure, to Buffalo or Ogdensburg or any other points eastward, and that the free ports established in the Provinces shall be abolished; also that the bounties now given to American seamen shall be repealed, and duties not higher imposted upon fish than those mentioned in Schedule A, providing that all the right of fishing near the shores existing under the treaty heretofore mentioned, shall be granted and conceded by the United States to the Provinces, and by the Provinces to the United States.

It is also further proposed that the following list of articles be mutually free, viz.: Burr millstones, unwrought, cotton, and linen rags, firewood, grindstones, rough or unfinished, gypsum, or plaster, unground.

SCHEDULE A.—Fish—Mackerel, one dollar and fifty cents per barrel; herring, pickled or salted, one dollar per barrel; salmon, two dollars and fifty cents per barrel; shad, two dollars per barrel; all other fish, pickled, one dollar and fifty cents, per barrel; provided that any fish in packages other than barrels shall pay in proportion to the rates charged upon similar fish in barrels. All other fish, one half cent per pound.

As to the duties which will be proposed upon the other articles included in the treaty, the following are submitted, viz:—Animals, living, of all sorts, twenty per cents ad val; apples and garden fruit and vegetables, ten per cent, ad val; barley, fifteen cents per bushel; beans, except vanilla and castor oil, thirty cents per bushel; beef, one cent per pound; buckwheat, ten cents per bushel; butter four cents per pound; cheese four cents per pound; corn, Indian, and oats, ten cents per bushel, corn meal, Indian, and oatmeal, fifteen cents per bushel; coal, bituminous, fifty cents per ton; all other coal twenty-five cents per ton; flour twenty-five per cent ad valorem; lard, three cent per pound; lumber, pine, round or log, one dollar and fifty cents per one thousand feet; pine sawed or hewn, two dollars and fifty cents per one thousand feet; planed, tongued and grooved or finished, twenty-five per cent ad valorem; spruce and hemlock, sawed or hewn, one dollar per one thousand feet, spruce, planed finished or partly finished, twenty-five per cent ad valorem; shingle bolts, ten per cent ad valorem; shingles, twenty per cent ad valorem; all other lumber of black walnut, chesnut, bass, white wood, ash, oak, round, hewn, or sawed, twenty per cent ad valorem; if planed, tongued, and grooved, or finished, twenty-five per cent ad valorem; ores, ten per cent ad valorem; peas, twenty-five cents per bushel; pork, one cent per pound; potatoes, ten cents per bushel; seed, timothy and clover, twenty per cent ad valorem; trees, plant and shrub, ornamental and fruit, fifteen per cent ad valorem; tallow, two cents per pound; wheat, twenty cents per bushel.

The N. Y. Albion, of Saturday last, writing before the above memorandum was published, observed on these modest propositions as follows:—

"We have not seen the papers which passed between the parties; nor can we state with accuracy the details of Mr. Morrill's proposition. We believe we are right, however, when we assert that almost everything coming from the Provinces—Wheat, Flour, Cattle, Wool, Lumber, Coal, Fish—were to be taxed in the United States, and that, in return for the free admission into the Provinces of the great staples of this country and of the cession of the inshore fisheries around 5,000 miles of coast, the Committee generously offered to admit, duty free, into the United States, *Firewood, Gypsum unground, Grindstones and Rags!*

"Now seeing that Gypsum, the guano of the South, was never so imperatively required as now to renovate the Southern plantations—that the factories and machine shops of this country cannot do without Nova Scotian grindstones—and that the rags imported would go back in the form of paper, which all the maritime Provinces take from New England and New York, these were magnanimous concessions! It is clear that the Delegates thought so. "To your tents, O Israel!" was the very natural response of gentlemen, who felt that the proposition could only be treated as a joke or an insult, and answered by a prompt return to the bosom of their families.

"Since the above was written, we are led to believe that a difference of opinion exists at Washington on this subject of Reciprocity—as on that of Southern reconstruction—between the Executive head of the nation, and leading members of the Congressional Committees, who appear to be entirely under the political influences of the hour. Perhaps when it is made generally known that the Provincial Delegates offered to deepen their chain of Canals at an expense of some $15,000,000 in gold, so that any vessel navigating the upper Lakes could pass through them to the ocean, the great North West will have a word to say in the matter. It was that great and growing section of the Union, which came forward at the critical moment in the late struggle, and, sweeping down the Mississippi river, declared that 'its waters must be free.' This section requires the St. Lawrence in summer quite as much as the Mississippi in winter, and may yet say to the small coterie of Eastern manufacturers, now controlling the legislature at Washington, that 'an arrangement must be made with the British Provinces on terms of equity.' Meantime, however, the temper of the Provinces—so far as we can judge—is rapidly changing; and another year may find them meeting the United States with mutually hostile commercial legislation, while the greatest facilities will be offered for direct trade with all Europe. Even now few regrets are expressed over the failure of the late negotiations."

The river rolleth red.
The flowers are drenched in floating haze,
Friends of yours, did you say? But are they safe,

THE MADOC MERCURY

AND NORTH RIDING NEWS.

A Weekly Journal of Local and General Information,

Will be Published every Saturday Morning, at Two Cents a Copy, or One Dollar a Year, STRICTLY in advance.

ADVERTISEMENTS WILL BE INSERTED ON THE FOLLOWING TERMS FOR CASH:—

Six lines, first insertion	0 50
Each subsequent insertion	0 12½
Six to ten lines, first insertion	0 70
Each subsequent insertion	0 16
Above ten lines (per line) first insertion	0 07
Each subsequent insertion, per line	0 02

All Communications for the MERCURY to be addressed (post-paid) to A. SMALLFIELD, Madoc Post Office.

For sale at WILSON'S MEDICAL HALL, *Madoc, where Subscribers in and near the village may obtain their copies, and orders for the paper and advertisements will obligingly be received.*

☞ SUBSCRIPTIONS PAYABLE YEARLY OR QUARTERLY IN ADVANCE.

GRAND TRUNK RAILWAY.

The following is the Time Table of the passenger trains on the Grand Trunk Railway at the Belleville Station:

Day Express going East, 11. 35 A. M.
Night Express going East, 10. 05 P. M.
Mixed Train going East, 10. 37 P. M.
Day Express going West, 7. 15 P. M.
Night Express going West, 7. 15 A. M.
Mixed Train going West, 11. 30 A. M.
Montreal Time.

THE MADOC MERCURY

AND NORTH RIDING NEWS.

MADOC, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 17.

"The Minister of Immigration has determined on "the establishment of an office in Liverpool, and the "publication of a paper in Canada, to be called the "*Canada Emigration Gazette*, which will be devoted "exclusively to the encouragement of immigration, "and the diffusion of accurate information concerning Canada abroad."

It appears from the above official announcement that we are to have a repetition of the "touting" business which has repeatedly brought the country into discredit in former years. The glowing and exaggerated, if not willfully false accounts, which were published in Europe from '55 to '60, caused a small current of immigration into Canada; but the people who were then induced to come here (chiefly by the pretence of "free grants of land") found those pretences so delusive, that the worst effects followed. Either the people went away to the Western States, finding that they could not get free grants in Canada; or if any of them remained in the country, they sent such accounts to their friends in England, as effectually to stop emigration in this direction, and to destroy all faith in Canadian statements for the future. Bearing these facts in miud, it seems worse than ridiculous, nay, absolutely vicious and criminal on the part of our government to give official sanction to a repetition of this work of deception.

This is pretty strong language, and we use it advisedly. While our land policy is radically defective, tending to bring the lumbermen and settlers continually into collision, and we practically hold our wild lands out of the reach of an extensive immigration, let us at least be honest about it; and let us not, by the publication of delusive information in England, induce any people to come here, until by a thorough and sweeping reform in our land policy the wild lands of the Province are really and practically opened, without restriction or hindrance, to the industrious settler.

If the *Canada Emigration Gazette* is to be a vehicle of really "accurate information concerning Canada abroad" let it by all means publish the existing regulations of the Crown Land Department relative to land offered for sale in the rear Townships in this County: and explain, if it can, what encouragement there is for the immigrant to come this way, when, under those regulations, the lumbermen can strip off all the most valuable property on the land—the pine—long before he can possibly carry out the stipulations which would entitle him to obtain a license to cut timber himself. Under such circumstances, how is the settler to make a living and add to the prosperity of the country?

Let the Government make the lands accessible by a thorough intersection with good roads. Put an export duty on the Timber, and either give the lands free or sell them at fifty cents an acre to actual settlers.

Madoc Agricultural Society.

The officers of the above Society, for the year 186[illegible], are as follows:—

President—John Tassie.
Vice-President—George McGaughey.
Treasurer—E. Mouney.
Secretary—Charles Gream.
Directors—James Blair, Donald Nicholson, Lyman Moon, William Vankleeck, Samuel Hemstreet, J. R. Ketcheson, W. H. Carpenter.
Auditors—A. F. Wood, G. D. Rawe.

We invite the attention of the Directors to an objection with which we have been met, when endeavouring to induce some of our friends in the "rural" districts to become members of the Society. They say they don't want anything to do with it, unless they can be sure they will have fair-play as exhibitors, and upon that point they have doubts, seeing that last year the Judges in some classes decided in favour of themselves for the first prizes. If this was really the case, the Directors should in good season devise a remedy, and make it known, as early as possible; as an objection of the nature mentioned above is very quickly circulated from one person to another and a conviction of its truth cannot but be prejudicial to the interests of the Society.

Proceedings of the County Council.

At the last session of the County Council, the various matters recommended to their attention by the Warden at the organization on the 23rd of January, were taken up and disposed of as follows:—A by-law was passed to raise the share of the Jail improvements to be paid by the County, which amounts to $10.000. As this amount has to be paid in the current year, it will entail an additional tax; which, on this township, will probably amount to about $500. This is comparatively a small amount; and we believe the policy pursued, of having such amounts paid within the year in which the improvements are made, to be sound and a step in the right direction.

The County roads are to be kept in repair, on the principle recommended by the Warden last year, viz.—Two foremen appointed to take charge of two gangs of men, under pay from the county, and to be moved about from place to place as they shall be required to fill ruts, mend culverts, make drains, &c., &c. This will do away with much of the grounds of complaint with reference to parts of the road being neglected, owing to their not being profitable to the contractors to repair. A committee is appointed, of which the Warden is chairman, that can be called together to advise with reference to improvements, without having a special meeting of the whole council. Timothy Farnham and John Francis are the foremen. The Committee—The Warden, and Messrs. Appleby, Corby, Graham and Boulter.

Another very important matter has also been considered and action taken thereon by the Council—that is, the appointing County Valuators of real estate. For several years the question of equali[illegible] has agitated the various Townships—but more [illegible] cularly those in the South Riding. Various rem[illegible] have been proposed; but none seemed to meet so much favour as the one now adopted, and w[illegible] was proposed by the Warden some years ago —County valuators. Last year the County Co[illegible] by petition, and through their representatives, e[illegible] oured to have the Municipal and assessment la[illegible] so amended, as to allow valuators for equaliz[illegible] and assessment purposes, but did not succeed. they evidently do not intend to give the matter as they have appointed the Warden to attend coming session of Parliament, and to lay befo[illegible] Committee on the Municipal and Assessments the changes desired, and to endeavour to get the sent to them. In the mean time, they have ap[illegible] ed two Valuators on their own account, viz., T[illegible] Emo, Esq., and Ketchan Graham, Esq.—V[illegible] other matters were attended to, among which resolution of Council, condemning the unlimited of interest—also another, objecting to the cl[illegible] proposed by Dr. Ryerson in the School law.— Warden was directed to have all amounts pas[illegible] from the minor Municipalities, and from the T[illegible] Belleville, put at once in the hands of the Tre[illegible] for collection; and we learn from the Warden t[illegible] intends to carry out these instructions to the le[illegible]

While upon municipal matters, it would be a[illegible] perhaps, to call the attention of owners of d[illegible] the tax levied by act of Parliament. The As[illegible] will soon be going around, and they are direc[illegible] take down the names of all persons owning Upon this return, the Council are compelled [illegible] and collect one dollar for each dog.

RETURN OF THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.—Lord [illegible] arrived in Montreal on Tuesday evening, and w[illegible] sented with a congratulatory address by the Council.

☞ The Hon. John A. Macdonald, Attorney eral West, was honoured by the Law Society o per Canada with a public dinner in Osgoode Toronto, on the 8th inst.

☞ Parliament is further prorogued till the of March, and not then to meet for the despa business.

The Editor Taken to Task!

To the Editor of the Madoc Mercury.

SIR,—I do not wish to be thought over-sen or thin-skinned, but being a lover of justice an play, I feel constrained to make the followi[illegible] quiry—

Why is it, that although the Methodist Epi[illegible] Church in this place, ever since your press ha[illegible] in operation, has given you her support, by tea-meeting bills, centenary bills, tickets, &c should have omitted to notice, either before o[illegible] or in any way, any of her meetings, or doings kind, while a notice of tea-meetings in any church has found—as it very properly sho[illegible] place in your columns?

To every common observer there would app[illegible] be something radically wrong. You have no[illegible] to file your appearance at, and to give notice i[illegible] paper of nearly every tea-meeting, political m[illegible] oyster supper and charivari within a circuit [illegible] miles; yet when any meetings or doings in c[illegible] tion with, or under the auspices of the M. E. C[illegible] have taken place, you have been careful to r[illegible] perfectly mum—not even space for one line.

Now, sir, I think an explanation is due fro[illegible] and unless a satisfactory one is given, thereaft[illegible] M. E. Church in this locality will get her p[illegible] done, and give her support in a quarter where be appreciated, and where she will get exte[illegible] her that courtesy, which under the circums[illegible] would be due.

Respectfully,
AN EPISCOPAL METHOD[illegible]

MADOC, Feb. 12, 1866.

Reply.

In reply to our friend who sends us the above, we state that our absence from the M. E. Tea-Meetings is [illegible] counted for—not by any prejudice against, or the slight respect for that religious denomination—but simply by that we have never received an invitation to be present we have attributed merely to inadvertence or forgetfu[illegible] certainly not to any intentional slight either to ourself sonally or to "The Press." But as it is customary—[illegible] perly so—to extend the courtesy of a special invitation representatives of the Press on such occasions, we hav[illegible] it a rule never to attend any Tea-Meeting where this courtesy has been omitted, even when we would willing[illegible]

paid the price of admission, for the sake of hearing some of the representative speakers of the various denominations. And this course we calculate to adhere to, even if thereby we forfeit some printing patronage.

Our friend is somewhat in error in stating that ever since our press has been in operation, the M. E. Church "has given us her support" in various specified ways. So far from this having been the case, it was not, (except an order for some tickets in 1863), until the close of 1864, that we were noticed by the M. E. Church. But of this we neither did nor do complain. Presuming that there was a natural unwillingness to sever previously existing relations—and having no claims upon the M. E. Church—we did not feel either hurt or injured on that account.

Still greater is the error in supposing that we "have been careful to keep mum" about matters of local interest to the M. E. connection. Our longest "local" on Dec. 17, 1864, was devoted to a report of the M. E. Soiree for that year. We should have been equally willing to have done the same this year—and can truthfully state that we designed requesting Mr. E. D. O'Flynn to furnish the particulars, but were too much pressed for time last week to apply to him.—In stating that we have not failed to attend at all other meetings—religious, political, and social—rather too much credit is given to us. We do what we can; but as it is pretty well known that Madoc is not sufficiently populous to enable a newspaper to maintain a large staff of paid reporters,—accidents will happen, and some things be omitted, if those most interested do not occasionally furnish us with voluntary reports.

With respect to notices having reference to the meetings of other religious denominations having appeared in the *Mercury*,—they have always been inserted in compliance with a request to that effect: and have frequently been nothing else than advertisements, gratis.

We wish to be distinctly understood, that we do not make this "explanation" on account of the threat that unless it is "satisfactory" we shall lose the printing of the M. E. Church. We have given value for all money received therefor, and do not consider ourselves bound in addition to pay for admission, and undertake the labour of taking and writing out a report, and also printing it.—If "An Episcopal Methodist" considers the matter fully, he will see that if those are the only terms on which we can obtain the printing in future, we might even gain by losing it. He may rest assured that the profit of all the M. E. printing we have done, would not tempt any editor at a distance to send a reporter to attend their meetings [illegible] lion dol[illegible], to obtain their patronage. But we explain, because [illegible]r of [illegible] correspondent evidently thinks he has found out a grievance and it is well to show him he has been a little mistaken.

In conclusion, when we say we have not attended M. E. tea meetings because the customary courtesies have not been extended to us, it is but justice to the Rev. Mr. Campbell to say that when he called at our office to get the bills printed, he did pay us the compliment of saying, "we shall look for a speech from our editor;" and this, so far as he was concerned, we acknowledge to have been sufficiently courteous. We therefore regret that our non-attendance could by any possibility be construed as a mark of intentional disrespect either to that Rev. gentleman or his people.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

STRAHAN & CO.'S MAGAZINES.

"Good Words are worth much and cost little."—HERBERT.

GOOD WORDS, Edited by Norman Macleod, D.D.—One of Her Majesty's Chaplains. 12½ Cents a Month; $1,50 a Year. Beautifully Illustrated.

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FOR SALE.

200 ACRES OF LAND, being Lot No. 24 in the THIRD Concession of MADOC. Situated about one mile West of the County gravelled road leading to the Hastings Road, and lying on the road from KELLAR'S BRIDGE to the MARMORA IRON WORKS. Distant only Two Miles and a-half from the Saw and Grist Mills a BANNOCKBURN; and surrounded by a large settlement of well to do Farmers.

About Fifty Acres Cleared, and the whole nearly free of stone.

Plenty of Excellent CEDAR on good dry land, and Fine HARD WOOD Timber.

TITLE indisputable. TERMS, which will be made easy, can be known on application to

THOMAS BAILEY.

Lot No. 12, in the 14th Concession of Huntingdon, adjoining the Village of Madoc.

LIST OF LETTERS

Remaining in Madoc Post Office up to the 31st of January, 1866.

Allan, Margaret	Harris, Mrs
Bennett, C U	Kehoe, Edward
Bailam, Miss J	Lundy, John
Bennett, H	Lavender, R
Bateman, James & Jno	Lingham, Job (3)
Bell, Jehiel	McClure, Mrs C
Bacon, R (2)	McGrath, John (2)
Baton, Samuel	McGuire, Mrs Jennett
Bradshaw, David	Mahoney, T
Brown, Wm	Morrison, Hugh (4)
Bradshaw, Martin	Moorecraft, John
Bryant, C B	Moxby, Joseph
Cooleridge & Cameron	McGuire, Mrs Ann
Carman, Elisabeth	McMechan, Wm
Dunn, Geo	Munroe, Miss S
Declare, Geo	Mack, Samuel
Donaghuy, Geo	Mortimer, Joseph
Dougan, Robert	Munroe, Henry
Espley, Leahury	Munroe, Lushes (2)
Fitzpatrick, John	McGillvory, Angus
Ferguson, R T	Tringle, W H (2)
Forestall, Chas	Prime, Miss
Genercieux, S	Prime, Mr
Gherow, Wm	Pringle, Miss M
Gauley, A	Quinlan, Thomas
Gillespie, Mary	Rosebush, Sidney
Hoover, Henry	Reed, John
Hobson, M E	Vankleeed, Benjn
Hicks, Edward	Valliuvin, Henery
Hazzard, Joseph (2)	Wannamaker, Mrs S A (2)
Hopkins, James	Wannaker Wm
Hall, J S	Witcher Rev James
Holmes, Peter	

Parties calling for Advertised Letters will please ask for such.

A. F. WOOD, *Postmaster.*

NOTICE

IS hereby Given that the PARTNERSHIP heretofore existing between WILLIAM CALDWELL and Myself is dissolved. All accounts are hereby forbidden to charge anything to the Firm of Bristol & Caldwell, as I will not be liable any such.

Madoc, Feb. 15, 1865. WELLINGTON BRISTOL.

NOTICE.

Mineral Districts Railway.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that APPLICATION will be made at the next Session of the Provincial Parliament, for an ACT to Incorporate a Company to BUILD A RAILWAY from BELLEVILLE through the Mineral Regions of North Hastings, by the Valley of the River Moira and for a grant of Public Lands in aid of the construction thereof. Also for the necessary power enabling said Company to construct a Canal, connecting the head waters of the Bay of Quinte with Lake Ontario, through Weller's Bay or otherwise.

T. C. WALLBRIDGE.

Belleville, 20th December, 1865.

R. JONES, M.D.,

(PROVINCIAL LICENTIATE),

PHYSICIAN, SURGEON, &c., MADOC. C. W.

OFFICE AND RESIDENCE—Mr. Anstee's Building, one door West of Mr. R. P. Young's Grocery Store.

STEWART & GILBERT,

SOLICITORS IN CHANCERY, ATTORNEYS-AT-LAW, &c. &c.

OFFICE—In Dafoe's New Brick Building, corner of Front and Bridge Street, BELLEVILLE.

D. E. KINGLAKE STEWART. B. S. GILBERT.

MONEY TO LEND

ON EASY TERMS.

APPLY to STEWART & GILBERT, BELLEVILLE.

DR. NICHOL,

AN EXPERIENCED HOMŒOPATHIC PHYSICIAN, SURGEON, and ACCOUCHEUR, may be consulted at his residence on Pinnacle Street, opposite the old Wesleyan Church, Belleville, between the hours of 10 A.M. and 2 P.M. each day.

During the past eleven years, Dr. Nichol has paid particular attention to Chronic Diseases, and he has made a special study of Diseases of Children.

Patients suffering from either Acute or Chronic Diseases, seen at their own homes, if required.

Belleville, June 28th, 1865.

Best and Cheapest Pictures in Belleville at TERWILLIGAR'S.

PHOTOGRAPHS Finished on the Finest Paper and in the Latest Style, on ONE DOLLAR AND A HALF PER DOZEN (One Dollar Per Dozen Cheaper than anywhere else.)

AMBROTYPES, FERREOTYPES, and all other kind of Pictures taken in the latest style and at the lowest prices.

Call and examine Specimens at his Rooms, opposite VICTORIA BUILDINGS, Belleville.

NORTH HASTINGS.

JOB PRINTING

OF EVERY DESCRIPTION

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(The Only Printing Establishment in the North Riding,)

With Neatness and Dispatch.

SUPPORT THE LOCAL INSTITUTIONS!!

MEDICAL HALL.

DURHAM STREET, MADOC.

C. G. WILSON,

CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST.

DR. J. S. LOOMIS,

Of McGill College,

HAS OPENED AN OFFICE in the Village of MADOC, in Mr. WEISS'S New Building, opposite WILSON'S Medical Hall.

All Calls will be promptly attended to.

FOR SCHOOL BOOKS, STATIONERY, AND CHILDREN'S BOOKS,

At Publishers' Prices, Call At

WILSON'S DRUG STORE,

DURHAM STREET. MADOC.

A. F. WOOD,

MARRIAGE LICENSE AGENT,

MADOC.

J. R. KETCHESON,

Township Clerk,

WILL be at the TOWN-HALL, MADOC, every SATURDAY, to attend to the business of the Township.

MR. GREAM,

Solicitor and Attorney of the Chancery and Law Courts of England)

Conveyancer, Coroner, &c.

JAMES FITZGERALD,

ATTORNEY AND CONVEYANCER

MADOC.

C. E. RANKIN,

Provincial Land Surveyor, Civil Engineer, &c.

OFFICE, Hudgins' Hotel, Madoc.

Reference—James Fitzgerald, Esq., Barrister-at-Law.

FOR SALE, OR TO LET,

THE HOUSE on the North side of KELLAR'S BRIDGE. It is well adapted and situated for a

GENERAL STORE,

Being eight miles distant from the Village of Hastings, on the new Gravel Road to Tudor. Six Acres of Land attached.

For TERMS, Inquire at the Mercury Office.

MADOC MARKET PRICES.

SATURDAY, February 17, 1866.

ASHES	$4.50 @ 100 lbs., 1st
	$— " " 2nd
BARLEY	None offered.
OATS	35 cents.
CORN	55 cents.
WHEAT, Fall	$1,10@1 25
Do., Spring	$1 @$0 00.
RYE	45 cents.
PEAS	55 cents.
HIDES	$5 @ 100 lbs.
SHEEPSKINS	75@80 cents for fresh.
PORK	$ @ bbl.
BUTTER	10@ lb
EGGS	—d.
HAY	$7 per ton.

BELLEVILLE MARKETS.

Fall Wheat, 6s 3d. Spring Wheat, 5 9@6 [illegible] Barley 4s 10@5s. Rye, 2s 8d. Oats, 2s 8d to 3s [illegible] Peas, best Timothy, $7 [illegible] Flour, $5 [illegible] Potatoes, 6s@7s3d. Pork [illegible]

THE HUMAN ENTHRALLER.

How beautiful must angels be
Who, in the realms of bliss above,
Love one another perfectly!
For Beauty is the form of Love.

Love is to Beauty as allied
As is expression to the face;
And spirits that are pure find
Reveal their love by outward grace.

The sweetest emblems an! the best
Of loveliness on Earth, the flowers,
Remind us of God's love exprest
By beauty in this world of ours.

Oh, who can view their simple grace,
So silent and so eloquent,
Nor quell within him every trace
Of anger and of discontent!

So tranquil and so strong a power
To melt the bosom they possess,
That roughest hands will pluck a flower
With all a woman's tenderness.

Yes, hardest hearts have soften'd been,
Beauty, by one slight touch of thine:
Strange mystic spirit, born a queen,
Who dares to call thee not divine?

The hearts of all men bow to thee:
The basest culprit, lost to sense
Of shame, and almost sympathy,
Yields often to thy influence.

Drawn by thee from his wretched life
Back to the God who waits to bless,
He finds a present Saviour rife
With love, and peace, and happiness.

A FLIGHT IN THE DARK.

(Continued.)

Everything was now ready for my attempt. Occasionally I heard the faint murmurs of voices below stairs, showing that there were other inmates of the house still awake; and now and then the opening or shutting of a distant door sounded preternaturally loud at that quiet hour. I confess that now the final moment was come, my heart failed for a minute or two, and I began to doubt my ability to carry out my plan to a successful issue. But this fit of weakness was of short duration, and gave place to an unfaltering resolution to do and dare everything to effect my escape.

I rose suddenly from my chair, stepped across the hearth in two strides, and seized the hoary rascal by the throat. 'Speak, or make a noise, and I'll murder you!' I whispered sternly in his ear, and I pressed the blade of my knife close before his eyes. Then before he had time to recover from the shock of an attack so sudden and unexpected, I had twisted the bell-rope into a large loop far out of his reach as he sat there. 'Open your mouth,' I said to him, 'but do not speak, or you die.' He was shivering with fright, and had hardly sense enough left to understand what I said. 'Mercy! mercy! good young man;' he gasped, and then the piece of wood was inserted between his teeth, and tied securely in its place, and he could say no more. I next fastened his hands behind him with my handkerchief, then drew a sheet off the bed, and cutting it with my knife into long strips, twisted these and proceeded to tie him securely in his chair. When I had satisfied myself that he was so fastened that it would be impossible for him to release himself, and further, that he was in no danger of being choked by the gag, I turned my attention to the window; and having taken off my boots, so as to make as little noise as possible in crossing the floor, I proceeded to try the shutters, and after five minutes' labour, succeeded in opening them almost in silence.

The next point was the window; but I found to my dismay, when I came to examine it, that it was composed of small diamond panes set in lead, and opened by means of a casement only, far too small to permit any hope of egress that way. My whole scheme seemed to collapse as I looked, for my intention had been to escape through the window, and reach the ground by means of a rope made out of the bed-clothes. What to do now, I knew not; and as I turned despairingly away, the old man's eyes met mine with a malignant glance of mingled rage and triumph. Suddenly a thought struck me. Although the stout man, on leaving the room, had locked the door behind him, was it not probable that the old man had in his possession another key that would open it? This was a question that I solved at once by searching him, and in one of his pockets I found a peculiar key—a master-key, I imagine it to have been, which probably fitted every door in the house; at all events it opened the door of my prison, as I was not long in discovering. Although this was only the first step towards my escape, I could not repress the joyous bounding of my heart when the door turned on its hinges, and I stepped cautiously out on the landing, and then stood listening to the murmur of the voices below stairs. But the most difficult part of my enterprise was still before me; this was to pass without discovery the open door of the room below, and then go down the second flight of stairs to the ground-floor, and so out by the first door I could find. The attempt to succeed at all must be made at once, before the stout man came up stairs, which he probably would ere long, to look after the safety of his prisoner.

Before venturing down in the direction of the voices, I gave one last look round my prison, and examined once more the bonds of the old man; then I blew out the candle, and locked the door; and having removed the key began to feel my way down the stairs, one at a time, pausing to listen between every step. Fortunately, the house was one of the old-fashioned kind, and strongly built; and not the faintest creaking of a stair betrayed my presence. At length I reached a large landing, giving access to four rooms. The door of one of these rooms was only partially closed, and through the opening shone a faint stream of light, while now and then a muttered word or two, whose tones I at once recognised, told me that there sat my captor and his friend. Their conversation was nearly over by the time I reached the landing, but they still seemed to be silently busy over something. What was the nefarious business that occupied them at such an unholy hour?

Noiseless as a shadow, I moved forward till I stood on the mat at the entrance to the room. The door was too far closed for me to see the occupants of the room, or for them to see me; but from where I stood, I could see the chimney-piece, and the large pier-glass which stood on it; and in this glass I could see the reflection of the stout man and his friend—could see, too, distinctly, what they were doing, which kept them so silent and so busy.

They had got the brown leather portmanteau open between them, and were intently examining its contents, which consisted of watches, chains, rings, and pins, together with several small boxes filled, apparently, with precious stones of different kinds—all, without doubt, the proceeds of some great robbery. I stood like one fascinated, forgetting for a moment the danger of my position. At length the stout man spoke. 'A very pretty little haul! Master Matthew!' said he. 'As nice a stroke of business as I've done for a long time, and neatly done, too, though I say it that shouldn't. I've got two little black leather travelling bags up stairs, which will do admirably to hold the swag. I'll go and fetch them, and then we'll make a fair division, as agreed on, and pack up ready for a start. I must give a look to that young shaver up stairs, and see that he's all right. I'm puzzled to know what to do with him—hang me, if I ain't!'

'Stick a knife in his gizzard!' suggested the slim man with a yawn.

'No, no; we'll not do that, if we can help it,' answered his companion. 'That's a line of business I've never gone into yet, and I don't mean to, either. My motto is, "Dead men always do tell tales." I'd rather have a live one to deal with at any day of the week. No, I must think out some plan before morning of disposing of him for a few days till we've got quietly away. Not, mind you,' he added, 'that I would hesitate to stick a bullet into him, if my blood was up, and I thought he was going to blow upon our little affair.'

He got up, and pushed back his chair. 'Now, you stay here,' he said, 'while I run up stairs. I shall be back in five minutes, and then we'll go share and share alike.'

I waited to hear no more, but hardly knowing what I did or whither I was going, sped noiselessly up stairs again. Before coming down, I had noticed on the upper landing a small closet or lumber room, in which stood a large ragged screen. Intuitively the idea came into my mind to hide for a minute or two behind this screen, and take my chance of escape in a rush down stairs, while the stout man was engaged with the first surprise of the discovery that would greet him on entering the room where I had been confined.

By the time I had reached the landing, the stout man was ascending the lower stairs; and the same instant that I crept behind the screen, he paused opposite the door to feel for his key, and the next moment the door of my prison was opened, and he went in. 'Hollo! what's this? Why are you in the dark?' I heard him exclaim; and then I stole from my hiding-place, crossed the landing, and turning the key in the lock, made both him and the old man prisoners, and then rushed down the first flight of stairs at breakneck pace. I paused for a second or two on the lower landing, noticing, with some surprise, as I did so that the room where the two men had been conferring only a minute before was now in darkness. Why had not the slim man awaited the return of his friend, as the latter had requested him to do? That, however, was a question which just then did not concern me.

(To be concluded next week.)

VARIETIES.

Why is a person who resembles your mother like Hamlet's father?—Because he has an eye like ma's (Mars).

When is it dangerous to enter a church?—When there is a canon in the reading-desk, and a great gun in the pulpit.

A merchant knowing little of geography, on hearing that one of his vessels was in jeopardy, exclaimed, "Jeopardy, Jeopardy, where's that?"

Philosophers tell us that violence is only energy misapplied, and dirt is simply matter in a wrong position.

Why waste time in discussing the question, "What is a spirit?" It isn't material.

Our own opinion is that a poor man will always remain poor if he don't take a newspaper; he will never learn how to get rich.

A little boy being told by his mother to take a powder she had prepared for him, "Powder, powder!" said he putting on a roguish smile, "mother, I ain't a gun!

A fashionable but ignoraat lady, desirous of purchasing a watch was shown a very beautiful one, the shopkeeper remarking that it went thirty-six hours: "What, in one day?" she asked.

A farmer, going to get his grist ground at a mill borrowed a bag of one of his neighbours; the poor man was knocked under the water-wheel, the bag with him, and drowned. When the melancholy news was brought to his wife she exclaimed, "My gracious, what a fuss there'll be about that bag!"

One very cold night, a jolly old fellow, who had been drinking too freely at a tavern, started for home in a gig, and on the way was upset and left by the side of the road. Some persons passing a short time after discovered him holding his feet up to the fire, and ejaculating to some invisible person, "Pile on wood—it's a miserably cold fire!"

At a camp-meeting a number of females continued standing on the benches, notwithstanding frequent hints from the ministers to sit down. A reverend old gentlemen, noted for his good humour, arose and said, "I think if those ladies standing on the benches knew that they had holes in their stockings, they would sit down." This address had the desired effect—there was an immediate sinking into seats. A young minister standing behind him, and blushing to the temples, said "Oh, brother, how could you say that?"—"Say that!" replied the old gentleman; "it is a fact—if they hadn't holes in their stockings, I'd like to know how they could get them on?"

A wag, who has heard of the Parisian society for supplying the emancipated negroes with trousers, gives it as his opinion, that "nigger-bockers" would be a more appropriate costume.

A little girl, after returning from church, where she saw a collection for the first time, related what took place, and among other things she said, with all her childish innocence, "a man passed around a plate that had some money on it, but I didn't take any."

The Queen is reported as shocked at discovering that the Prince and Princess of Wales smoke cigarettes together in a little blue satin sanctum called their smoking-room. This pernicious and reprehensible practice was taught her royal highness by her husband,—and, horrible to say, she likes it.

At a recent masked ball in Norwich a young lady was completely dressed in newspapers. Of course she struck off a large impression, all the gentlemen present being impressed with the idea that the paper-duty—to fall in love with her—was re-imposed. We wonder whether dancing increased her circulation, and whether her leaders were the leaders of fashion. Of course she could not object to having her hand squeezed as an act of homage to the press.

Norwalk, Connecticut, is exercised about body-snatchers, who, on Sunday night last, dug up the body of a young lady who had been buried that afternoon, and succeeded beyond their expectations. She had been buried in a cataleptic fit, and upon being exposed to the night air, animation was restored. The resurrectionists fled, and she walked home. Her parents refused to admit her, believing her to be a ghost. She then went to the house of a young man to whom she was engaged. He took her in, and on Monday morning they were married.

THE MADOC MERCURY
AND NORTH RIDING NEWS.

No. 166. MADOC, (HASTINGS CO., C.W.) SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 1866. PRICE TWO CENTS.

A Neglected Source of Revenue.

The symptoms of public feeling in favour of reduced duties on imports, as the most effectual remedy for the inconvenience anticipated from the abrogation of the Reciprocity Treaty, are daily gaining strength. Any extensive reduction in our tariff would necessitate the collection of revenue in some other manner. The excise duties on spirits and tobacco might be increased to some extent, and the stamp duties may perhaps be made to yield a larger revenue; but we do not think that these items are capable of increase to a sufficient extent to make up the loss occasioned by anything like a free trade tariff.

There is a branch of trade, however, which, under any circumstances ought to be brought under contribution for revenue purposes, and which, in our opinion, is capable of yielding an amount sufficient to warrant a very considerable reduction in our import duties, without any injurious effect upon the trade itself.

We allude to the Timber and Lumber trade. From the Trade and Navigation returns for the fiscal year ending 30th June, 1865, we find the value of export the produce of the forest set down at $13,994,616, not including the value of square timber exported. The value of [illegible] exports in a very [illegible] than that of Civilian [illegible] with [illegible] 63 was considerably greater. We may assume that fourteen million dollars is about the average annual value of timber of all kinds exported from Canada; while the amount contributed by this immense branch of industry to revenue purposes is absolutely NIL! We make this statement advisedly, and with an accurate knowledge of the system upon which the trade is conducted. We are quite aware that a certain insignificant sum is annually paid to the Commissioner of Crown Lands in the shape of timber dues and ground rent for the exclusive privilege of cutting timber on the public lands; but this sum cannot be classed for a moment in the category of *taxes*,—it is simply the price paid by the manufacturer for the raw material of his trade. It would be just as reasonable to consider the price paid by the distiller to the farmer for his grain in the light of taxation, as it would be to count the sum paid by the Lumberers to the Crown for timber, as a contribution by the trade for revenue purposes. We hold decided views as to the necessity of raising those timber dues to something approaching the real value of the standing timber,—views which are shared by some of the leading manufacturers themselves, as necessary to the well-being of the trade,—but it would be foreign to our present purpose to discuss that branch of the subject.

If the principle of internal taxation or excise duties upon industry be admitted, it does seem an extraordinary anomaly that this branch of trade should be exempt, in which the most extensive private fortunes have been accumulated, and to which the property of the people at large contributes the raw material at a price confessedly far below its actual value. The necessity for an export duty on Lumber has been felt by some of our leading statesmen for several years, but has never taken tangible form. Numerous committees of the Legislature have been nominated from session to session for years back, but the parties interested in the trade have so managed to get majorities of their friends and partisans on those committees, that nothing has been done, except to surround the subject with such a mass of printed matter, in the shape of blue books, and reports of all kinds, that Members of the Government are actually afraid to touch it in any way. This cloud of papers has been designedly accumulated for the purpose of mistifying the Legislature and preventing any interference with the existing state of things. There are a couple of broad facts, however, that cannot be hidden. The Lumber Merchants export annually fourteen million dollars worth of property without contributing any tax to the revenue; and for the raw material, which is to a great extent the property of the people, they only pay a very insignificant sum to the Crown Land Department. We do not know the exact sum produced from Timber dues during the year '64-'5, but is the entire revenue derived from Crown Lands, including new sales, arrears collected, and Timber revenue, altogether only amounted to $461,000, the amount of Timber dues cannot be very large,—probably not over $210,000, or one and one-half per cent. on the value exported.

Five per cent. export duty on Lumber would probably have the effect of diminishing the production for some years; and in this point of view alone, some such measure is much to be desired. Our forests are being rapidly exhausted under the existing system, which gives an artificial stimulus to production, independent of the natural laws of supply and demand. If we suppose the export value reduced to ten million dollars, a five per cent. duty would give a revenue of $500,000, with very little increased cost of collection. The existing machinery of the Supervisor's office at Quebec would be capable, with perhaps the addition of two or three clerks, to collect the duty there; and the Custom-house employees at all the Lake ports could collect the duty on saw logs and sawn lumber.

There are many points of view in which such a tax may be favourably considered. We think it would be beneficial to the trade itself, by checking overproduction, and tend to prevent the reckless waste of the public forests, which the present system produces. Of course the rate of duty would have to be graduated by the state of the European markets, where we have to compete with Baltic timber, and could not be placed higher than the trade would bear and a properly regulated system of production based upon the demand.

There is one feature in the present limit system so peculiarly vicious, that we can only account for the Lumber Merchants submitting to it by the supposition that they dread any agitation of the subject. By a clause in the regulations, the ground rents of berths not worked during the year, are doubled, and go on doubling every year, up to a certain point. The effect of this is, that whether the timber is wanted or not, it is cut down in the woods, and sometimes left there to rot. A certain number of shanties must be kept going, and the production of timber is thus artificially stimulated to an extent often beyond the real natural requirements of the trade. This extraordinary regulation was considered necessary to prevent individuals from holding large tracts of forest land from year to year, to the exclusion of smaller manufacturers, who might be willing to rent and work them, but in practice it is found to be wholly inoperative for the purpose intended, while, on the other hand, it causes a lamentable waste of public property.

Mr. Derby, in his recent report considers that we have not yet exhausted more than one-tenth of our timber resources. If he reversed the figures and said that we have not preserved one-tenth, he would be much nearer the truth; and it is certain that our present system is admirably contrived for doing away with the remainder in the shortest possible time, and with the least possible profit to the country. In fact, the existing system was framed at a time when our pine forests were considered to be practically inexhaustible, and their provisions were such as to produce as large a manufacture of timber as possible, in order to insure a revenue from the dues,—these dues being put at an absurdly low figure with reference to the actual cash value of the standing timber. This is notably the case with regard to saw logs, which are annually exported across the Lakes in large numbers, to be manufactured in the United States; leaving nothing in Canada but the mere price charged by Government for each log on export, which is five-pence currency, and the very small value of the labour expended in getting out the logs in the crudest form of raw material.

The middle Northern States, such as New York and Pennsylvania, cannot do without our lumber. Congress may legislate as it pleases, but the people must have the boards. They may have to pay an extra price for them, as they have for everything else under a war debt tariff, but have them they will. It is the bounden duty of our Legislature to frame such regulations as will insure to the Province a fair remuneration for the standing timber, and prevent its wasteful destruction. It would seem also that a wise consideration for our own interests should induce us to discriminate in the rate of dues to be paid on the export of saw logs in the rough and of sawn lumber. Our present regulations contain no such wise provision. On the contrary, they operate so as to give every possible advantage in this respect to the American manufacturer, and it is largely availed of. There are at the present moment, four or five Oswego firms, who own saw-mills there, engaged in getting out an immense number of white pine saw logs in this section of the country, under the limit license system. The number of saw logs so exported in the season of 1863 was 238,589 from this territory alone. Several additional firms are at work this winter, and all the old operators have an increased force in the woods, so that we feel safe in estimating the number of saw logs cut up in our woods for export in the rough, this winter, will not be less than five hundred thousand. This is, of course, an immense trade, and looks very fine on paper; but let us see what real benefit the country derives from it, as compared with what she might and ought to derive from so valuable a property.

First, we have the year's ground rent, which may be set down at $5,000, as the proportion payable for saw logs, and the dues at 5d per log, $11,666; or say, $17,000, which will be paid to our government on the export of five hundred thousand saw logs. This is literally all that the Province will receive as public revenue in exchange for at least two hundred and fifty thousand pine trees, which are actually worth, standing in the bush, and might be sold for, $1 or $1.50 each, under a proper system. This, however, is only one ramification of the evil; for if we follow the consideration of the saw-log trade to its culmination in Albany we shall see how very small a proportion of the profitable employment afforded by the trade accrues to Canadian interests. The saw log in the booms at Belleville, ready for towing to Oswego, may be set down as having cost the American owner, who has taken it out himself, about $1,—including dues and ground rent, equal to 9 cents,—leaving 91 cents, which he will have expended in Canada in the process of cutting, hauling and driving.

Four of these saw logs, or at most five, will make one thousand feet of lumber, worth, on the average, at Albany say $20, so that, under our present system, 95 per cent. of the value of this trade goes into American channels, in the shape of payment for manufacturing and transporting the products of our forests, and we get just one-twentieth or five per cent. for the raw material and transport to the Lake. This export of saw logs is suicidal and destructive of our greatest source of wealth. Bad as the limit system is, as applied to the trade in square timber, it is infinitely worse in this branch. It is a fact, which we can sustain by the best evidence, that the large limit holders, who take out saw logs for the American market, do not pay dues on more than two saw logs on the average for each tree they cut down in the woods; that is to say, they pay tenpence currency for a pine tree which, if worked up into lumber at a local sawmill close to where it grew, would yield from 800 to 1,000 feet of sawn lumber. Beside this, they are allowed to range over a wide extent of forest, selecting the best trees, and again taking out only the best portion of these, leaving the remainder to rot in the woods, or help to spread destructive fires.

Now, the Square Timber merchants know all this. They are quite aware that the saw log trade is rapidly exhausting the forests, they know that it is killing the goose that has laid golden eggs for them so long. They also know that it only requires an earnest re-

(Continued on third page.)

THE MADOC MERCURY

AND NORTH RIDING NEWS.

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GRAND TRUNK RAILWAY.

The following is the Time Table of the passenger trains on the Grand Trunk Railway at the Belleville Station:

Day Express going East. 11. 35 A. M.
Night Express going East. 10. 05 P. M.
Mixed Train going East. 10. 37 P. M.
Day Express going West. 7. 15 P. M.
Night Express going West. 7. 15 A. M.
Mixed Train going West. 11. 30 A. M.
Montreal Time.

THE MADOC MERCURY

AND NORTH RIDING NEWS.

MADOC, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24.

We hope that none of our readers will fail to give an attentive perusal to the article on the first page. Having expressed in the course of conversation with a friend, an opinion that instead of private individuals being allowed to monopolize almost all the profits of taking the timber off the Crown Lands, so valuable a property ought to be managed in such a way as to reduce the expenses of carrying on the government of the Province, he informed us that he entertained similar views, and had already committed them to paper. We requested and obtained permission to publish them, and think all tax-payers will agree with us, that the article evinces a thorough understanding and complete mastery of the subject, and deserves dissemination throughout the length and breadth of the land. Wealthy "vested interests" will of course fight to the utmost against any change in the present system, and they possess sufficient influence in the Legislature to make the task of attempting a reform a difficult one. They have also, of course, numerous partisans in this section, who contend that the sums disbursed by the lumbermen in the winter time are of too much importance to make any interference desirable. But when those who argue thus, find that for every dollar spent in that way, the lumbermen obtain nearly twenty times its value, they will perhaps be able to perceive there is another side to the question, and that without diminishing the production of lumber in this section, it is possible by wise legislation, to retain a much larger share of the profit in the Province.—In the neighboring State of New York, the tolls on the Erie canal, before the late civil war, sufficed to pay all the expenses of the State Government. Is there any reason why the Crown lands, which are as much the property of the people of the Province, as the Erie Canal is the property of the people of the State of New York, should not, in the same manner, be made to contribute, directly and effectively, to the production of a large revenue for the public service?

A reform is wanted, and the only way to bring it about is for those who understand the subject, to agitate it. When it is once seen that the question does not merely affect the interests of a few thousand scattered backwoodsmen, but possesses a general Provincial importance, the movement, however slow it may be in the first instance, will gradually acquire strength, and in the end, despite all adverse influences brought to bear against it, must certainly succeed.

County School-Convention.

On Friday, the 16th inst., agreeably to the notice of the Chief Superintendent of Education, a large and influential meeting was held at Neilson's Hall, Belleville, to hear Dr. Ryerson's views with reference to certain changes he proposes to make in the present School Law. A. F. Wood, Esq., Warden of the County, was called to the chair, and A. Diamond, Esq., appointed Secretary. The following gentlemen occupied seats on the platform—Rev. Messrs. Grier, M. Laren, Walker, Preston, Young, and Wilde and Hon. L. Wallbridge, Hon. P. Flint, Hon. R. Read, M. Carman, Esq., Principal of Belleville College, M. Bowell, Esq., Chairman Board of Common Schools, Dr. Boulter, Chairman Board of Grammar School Trustees, North Hastings, and the two Superintendents of Schools, North and South, Messrs. Agur and Rous.

Dr. Ryerson being introduced by the Chairman, came forward and was received with hearty applause. He then addressed the meeting on the propriety of a change in the present mode of examining teachers; and apparently satisfied most present with the necessity of a change; the following resolution being, after some discussion, carried almost unanimously:—

"That this meeting concurs in the views of the Chief Superintendent of Schools regarding the alteration of the present mode of examining Teachers, by the appointing of a Board of practical and competent men, who shall prepare all questions to be thereafter printed and transmitted by them under Seal to the Chairman of the several County Boards (to be appointed by the Governor in Council, as explained,) who shall examine all candidates, and grant Certificates accordingly:—Third Class Certificates to be abolished, as explained."

The next subject taken up was—Compulsory attendance at school; Dr. Ryerson expressing himself warmly in its favour, arguing that upon compulsory taxation followed compulsory attendance. The Chairman, and Messrs. Corbin, Seymour and Graham, and Rev. Messrs. Walker and Wilde, opposed it, arguing that it was wrong in principle, and would of necessity be bad in practice. Messrs. Diamond, Henderson, Rev. Messrs. Climie and M'Laren, approved, some its general application, others its being confined to towns and cities. After a warm discussion, in which some of the speakers expressed the opinion that Dr. Ryerson did not want so much the views of the meeting as to have them endorse his—the following resolution, to which amendments were offered and lost—was carried:—

"That the principle of Free Schools being based upon compulsory taxation, it follows as a logical conclusion, that attendance upon schools should also be compulsory; provided an education is not otherwise given to those who do not attend schools."

Township Boards, in lieu of the present School sections, was then brought before the meeting by Dr. Ryerson. At the close of his remarks, the following resolutions was carried almost unanimously:—

"That in the opinion of this meeting, the present system of school sections works beneficially, and that it is not advisable to make any alteration in the Law in that respect."

A vote of thanks to Dr. Ryerson was then moved by Hon. P. Flint, seconded by Hon. R. Read,—the latter saying that he refrain'd from expressing an opinion until in his place in the House at the proper time.—Carried unanimously, as was also a vote of thanks to the Warden.

The Church of England Tea-Meeting.

The Tea-meeting held on Wednesday evening in the new Church, for the purpose of obtaining funds towards the completion of the edifice, passed off in the most satisfactory manner. There was a pretty general turn-out on the part of the villagers, and the roads being in good order, and the weather delightful, attendance from the country was also large—coming quite a considerable distance: so the church was completely crowded. Fortunately due provision had been made for the contingency and the supply of refreshments proved adequate to satisfy the wants of all the guests. After tea was over, Mr. Agur proceeded in gratification at seeing so large an audience, and then introduced the Rev. Mr. Fin. of Belleville, who treated his hearers to a very interesting sketch of the "Life of Oliver Goldsmith." Addresses were also made by the Rev. Mr. English, A. F. Wood, Esq., Warden, and Messrs. U. Seymour and F. D. O'Flynn, but they very considerately made them extremely brief, as from the incomplete state of the building more cold air found its way in than was conducive to the comfort of the audience, although every effort had been made to prevent it. The proceedings were interspersed with sacred music by the Madoc Quadrille Band.

The proceeds of the evening's entertainment, and of the supplementary tea-meeting for the children on the following morning, amounted to the sum of $120.

Hastings Road Tea-Meeting.

To the Editor of the Madoc Mercury.

SIR,—The above Tea-meeting came off at Millbridge on Wednesday, the 14th inst., and was, notwithstanding the snow storm in the forenoon, a successful affair. W. H. Carpenter, Reeve of Tudor, and true friend to every good cause, was called to the chair, and nobly did he perform the duty devolved upon him. The Rev. R. Go frey delivered an address on Temperance, and the Rev. Mr. Howell on "Man a Social Being." During the evening the Rev. Mr. Howell played and sang several pieces on an excellent melodeon. They were also favoured with some first-class singing and playing by Miss E. Elliott, a young lady from York near Toronto, who was paying a visit to these parts. The meeting broke up about 10 o'clock, all much delighted at the happy and interesting meeting they had enjoyed, and out that [illegible] they would not mind a repetition of the night, a jolly and [illegible] music particularly four times the amount.

[illegible] started [illegible] and left [illegible]

☞ The Annual Tea-Meeting in connection with the Wesleyan Methodist Church in this village, will be held on Thursday evening next, the 1st proximo.

☞ Although we cannot yet begin to compete with places where they occasionally slaughter hogs weighing one thousand pounds and upwards, considerable improvement is taking place in the matter of improving the breed of hogs in this neighbourhood. On the 12th of this month, Mr. John Moore, of this Township killed two pigs, which when dressed, made together, 640 lbs of pork. The animals which were "Yorkshires" were littered on the 21st of April, 'old and were consequently less than 10 months old.

To the Editor of the Madoc Mercury.

MR. EDITOR,—So "E. M." pe ched, and you've caught at last. You and he have gone, not only to all our *charivaris*, but to tea-meetings, &c., and now he's mad, and has let the cat out of the bag. Now we don't altogether like the idea of your attending such *immoral* places as Tea-meetings, Centenary, &c. Oyster-suppers we don't object to—the latter bad. But One of the Boys says as how seeing you attend Tea-meetings, perhaps "E. M." isn't to blame, and though you did "file your appearance," perhaps you only played blind. *We* expected better things when we took you to attend our charivaris," and we thought you would be "mum." Now, sir, "an explanation is necessary, and unless a satisfactory one is given," we will give our support where "quarters" can be got; and further, we not being "over-sensitive," you will get touched upon the raw, or where you are "thin-skinned." One thing is certain, that "to every common observer there would appear to be something radically wrong" in your conduct, and we shall keep one eye on you and "E. M." both, and if found to frequent the aforesaid places we shall give you the go-by, and get those who can "extend to us that courtesy which under the circumstances is our due."

Yours affectionately,

ONE OF THE BOYS.

From Europe.

The steamship City of London arrived at New York on the 17th.

It is rumoured that Parliament will be asked to

suspend the habeas corpus, to give Government the power to deal with foreign conspirators.

Additional rewards are offered for information leading to the capture of Stephens.

Dublin, Feb. 1.—A notice was issued by the Police Commissioners last night prohibiting the holding of the fancy fair and bazaar in aid of the families of the State prisoners which was announced for to-night. A concert, announced for the same purpose, is also prohibited. The Commissioners state that they have received information that the meetings are intended for the purpose of assembling a number of persons engaged in treasonable practices, and that such meetings, if permitted, would be likely to endanger the public peace.

The steamship Europa, from Liverpool on the 3rd, and Queenstown on the 4th, arrived at Halifax on the 18th inst.

Parliament was opened by Royal commission on the 1st. The Lord Chancellor stated that as soon as all the members were sworn, Her Majesty would communicate the cause for calling Parliament together.—In the House of Commons, Mr. Denison was re-elected Speaker without opposition, his conduct being warmly eulogized by the leaders on both sides of the House.

The Dublin police, on the 1st instant, seized, in a building formerly used as a stable in Longford lane, nearly 200 pikes, and about 300 incomplete pike-handles. Small seizures of arms are also reported in private houses.

An influential meeting was held in Dublin on the 1st. The Marquis of Downshire presided. Resolutions were passed declaring that the Fenian conspiracy had produced a feeling of well-founded alarm and that it was the duty of the Government to use the most effective measures to crush it, and afford full protection to loyal and well-disposed citizens. Another resolution calls on the Government to increase the military force in Ireland. Both were passed unanimously.

The London Times remarks that Spain tenaciously refused to accede to the declaration of Paris in favour of abolishing privateering, and now that weapon has been turned against her. A very short time will enable the Chilian government to commission such a number of privateers that Spanish commerce will be impossible, and even vessels of war will be in danger of being captured.

The Canadian steamship Moravian, from Liverpool on the 8th, and Londonderry on the 9th, arrived at Portland on the 20th inst.

Queen Victoria opened Parliament on the 6th. The speech expressed satisfaction at the successful termination of the American war and the abolition of slavery, and says that the correspondence relative to rebel cruisers will be laid before Parliament. The Queen announced the approaching marriage of the Princess Helena. She says her foreign relations are all satisfactory, and the recent meeting of the English and French fleets tended to confirm the existing friendship between the two nations. The treaties with Austria and Japan are referred to with satisfaction. The deplorable events in Jamaica are referred to with regret, and the measures taken in the matter are detailed. The proceedings still in progress in British North America for confederation are watched with interest, and great importance is attached to the result. Great concern is expressed for the cattle plague, and much sympathy for the sufferers. The Fenian conspiracy is referred to, as adverse alike to authority, property and religion. The authority of the law has been firmly and impartially vindicated. Reference is then made to sundry local measures, including one on reform.

Liverpool, Feb. 9th.—In the House of Commons yesterday, The O'Donohue moved an amendment to the Address, declaring it to be duty of the ministers to examine into the causes of Irish dissatisfaction and remove them. After a general debate on Fenianism, the amendment was rejected by 346 to 25, and the address was agreed to.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

FOR SALE.

300 ACRES OF LAND being Lot No. 24 in the THIRD Concession of MADOC. Situated about one mile east of the County gravelled road leading to the Hastings road, and lying on the road from KELLAR'S BRIDGE to the MARMORA IRON WORKS. Distant only Two Miles and a-half from the Saw and Grist Mills at BANNOCKBURN, and surrounded by a large settlement of well to do Farmers.

About Fifty Acres Cleared, and the whole nearly free of stone.

Plenty of Excellent CEDAR on good dry land, and Fine RED WOOD Timber.

TITLE indisputable. TERMS, which will be made easy, can be known on application to

THOMAS BAILEY,

Lot No. 12, in the 14th Concession of Huntingdon, adjoining the Village of Madoc.

LIST OF LETTERS

Remaining in Madoc Post Office up to the 31st of January, 1866.

Allan, Margaret	Harris, Mrs
Bennett, C U	Kehoe, Edward
Bellam, Miss J	Lundy, John
Bennett, H	Lavender, R
Bateman, James & Jno	Lingham, Job (3)
Bell, Jehiel	Mc'ur., Mrs C
Bacon, R (2)	McGrath, John (2)
Baton, Samuel	McGuire, Mrs Jennett
Bradshaw, David	Mahoney, T
Brown, Wm	Morrison, Hugh (4)
Brudshaw, Martin	Moorecraft, John
Bryant, C B	Moxby, Joseph
Cooleridge & Cameron	McGuire, Mrs Ann
Carman, Elisabeth	McMechan, Wm
Dunn, Geo	Munroe, Miss S
Declare, Geo	Mack, Samuel
Donaghuy, Geo	Mortimer, Joseph
Dougan, Robert	Munroe, Henry
Espley, Leahury	Munroe, Luches (2)
Fitzpatrick, John	McGillvory, Angus
Fergusen, R F	Pringle, W H (2)
Forestall, Chas	Prime, Miss
Generieux, S	Prime, Mr
Gherow, Wm	Pringle, Miss M
Gauley, A	Quinlan, Thomas
Gillespie, Mary	Rosebush, Sidney
Hoover, Henry	Reed, John
Iobson, M E	Vankleeck, Benja
Hicks, Edward	Valluvin, Henery
Hazzard, Joseph (2)	Wannamaker, Mrs S A (2)
Hopkins, James	Wannaker Wm
Hall, J S	Witcher Rev James
Holmes, Peter	

Parties calling for Advertised Letters will please ask for such.

A. F. WOOD, *Postmaster.*

NOTICE

IS hereby Given that the PARTNERSHIP heretofore existing between WILLIAM CALDWELL and Myself is dissolved. ALL PERSONS are hereby forbidden to charge anything to the Firm of Bristo. & Caldwell, as I will not se tle any such Claims.

Madoc. Feb. 15, 1866. WELLINGTON BRISTOL.

NOTICE.

Mineral Districts Railway.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that APPLICATION will be made at the next Session of the Provincial Parliament, for an ACT to Incorporate a Company to BUILD A RAILWAY from BELLEVILLE through the Mineral Regions of North Hastings, by the Valley of the River Moira, and for a grant of Public Lands in aid of the construction thereof. Also for the necessary power enabling said Company to construct a Canal, connecting the head waters of the Bay of Quinte with Lake Ontario, through Weller's Bay or otherwise.

T. C. WALLBRIDGE.

Belleville, 26th December, 1865.

R. JONES, M.D.,

(PROVINCIAL LICENTIATE),

PHYSICIAN, SURGEON, &c., MADOC, C. W.

OFFICE AND RESIDENCE—Mr. Anstee's Building, one door west of Mr. R. P. Young's Grocery Store.

STEWART & GILBERT,

SOLICITORS IN CHANCERY, ATTORNEYS AT-LAW, &c. &c.

OFFICE—In Dafoe's New Brick Building, corner of Front and Bridge Street, BELLEVILLE.

D. E. KINNEAR STEWART. H. S. GILBERT.

MONEY TO LEND

ON EASY TERMS.

APPLY to STEWART & GILBERT,

BELLEVILLE.

DR. NICHOL,

AN EXPERIENCED HOMŒOPATHIC PHYSICIAN, SURGEON, and ACCOUCHEUR, may be consulted at his residence on Pinnacle Street, opposite the old Wesleyan Church, Belleville, between the hours of 10 A.M. and 2 P.M. each day.

During the past eleven years, Dr. Nichol has paid particular attention to Chronic Diseases, and he has made a special study of Diseases of Children.

Patients suffering from either Acute or Chronic Diseases, can be seen at their own homes, if required.

Belleville, June 28th, 1865.

Best and Cheapest Pictures in Belleville at TERWILLIGAR'S.

PHOTOGRAPHS Finished on the Finest Paper and in the Latest Style, on or ONE DOLLAR AND A HALF PER DOZEN (One Dollar Per Dozen Cheaper than anywhere else.)

AMBROTYPES FERROTYPES, and all other kind of Pictures taken in the latest style and at the lowest prices.

Call and Examine Specimens at his Rooms, opposite VICTORIA BUILDINGS, Belleville.

"A NEGLECTED SOURCE OF REVENUE."

(Continued from first page.)

presentation of the facts by the members in the Legislature to insure a reform; but they dare not move in it—they know that the moment the light of day is let in upon the system, their destructive monopoly will be swept away, and the people of the Province will awake to the astounding fact that our forests are nearly exhausted, and that only the most active and energetic measures can succeed in preserving the remainder to a sufficient extent to yield lumber for domestic use in the Province at a reasonable price, and admit of a limited exportation.

But the worst of all the effects of the limit system is, that it is actively hostile to the settlement of the country, under the plausible pretence of preserving the pine, while, at the same time it is, by its own vicious operation, destroying those very forests far more rapidly, and with far less profit to the country, than could possibly be done under the most rapid system of settlement.

MEDICAL HALL.

DURHAM STREET, MADOC.

C. G. WILSON,

CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST.

DR. J. S. LOOMIS,

Of McGill College,

HAS OPENED AN OFFICE in the Village of MADOC, in Mr. WEBB'S New Building, opposite WILSON'S Medical Hall.

All Calls will be promptly attended to.

FOR SCHOOL BOOKS, STATIONERY, AND CHILDREN'S BOOKS,

At Publishers' Prices, Call At

WILSON'S DRUG STORE,

DURHAM STREET, MADOC.

A. F. WOOD,

MARRIAGE LICENSE AGENT,

MADOC.

J. R. KETCHESON,

Township Clerk,

WILL be at the TOWN-HALL, MADOC, every SATURDAY, to attend to the business of the Township.

MR. GREAM,

Solicitor and Attorney of the Chancery and Law Courts of England)

Conveyancer, Coroner, &c.

JAMES FITZGERALD,

ATTORNEY AND CONVEYANCER

MADOC.

FOR SALE, OR TO LET,

THE HOUSE on the North side of KELLAR'S BRIDGE. It is well adapted and situated for a

GENERAL STORE,

Being eight miles distant from the Village of Hastings on the new Gravel Road to Tudor. Six Acres of Land attached.

For TERMS, inquire at the MERCURY Office.

MADOC MARKET PRICES.

SATURDAY, February 24, 1866.

ASHES	$4.50 @ 100 lbs. 1st sts
BARLEY	$ " 2nd
OATS	None offered.
CORN	35 cents.
WHEAT, Fall	55 cents.
Do., Spring	$1.10@1 25
RYE	$1 a 60 00.
PEAS	45 cents.
HIDES	55 cents.
SHEEPSKINS	$5 @ 100 lbs.
PORK	75@80 cents for fresh.
BUTTER	$ @ bbl.
EGGS	10d. @ lb
HAY	—4.
	$7 per ton.

BELLEVILLE MARKETS.

Fall Wheat, 6a 24. Spring Wheat, 5a 9 81. Barley, 2a 10@2 35. Rye, 2 81. Oats, 2a 2@2 14. Peas, 3a 3c. Hay, last Timothy, $7 @8 per ton. Hides, $5. Sheepskins, 6a 6@6 24. Potash, $1,75.

HAUGHTY NELLY.

So sweet she is, so sweet and fair,
Such glow and glory grace her hair,
I often used to wish she were
A little more divine.

Fondly wish'd in her to see
A little less of giggling glee,
A little less of coquetry,
And pertness, and design;

I wish'd that she had learnt at school,
Not, how to win men and to rule
By making wise ones play the fool,
And foolish ones adore;

But, how to use the charms she had
In cheering hearts that else were sad,
And making one heart always glad,
And blest for evermore.

I wish'd—but wishing is a trade
For boys and simple maidens made;
And, if I tried it, I'm afraid
I could not set her free

From all the tricks and trumperies
That keep her nature in disguise,
And will not let her cast her eyes
On quiet folks like me.

A FLIGHT IN THE DARK.

(Concluded.)

I had now the lower flight of stairs to descend, and here I was obliged to proceed more cautiously, being unacquainted with the ground. I had turned two corpers in safety, and was on the last short flight when a sudden thundering at the locked door above, startled me from my balance, and I stumbled headlong down the remaining stairs, bursting open a door at the foot of them, and landing in a large kitchen at the other door of which—the door leading into the street—stood the slim man, with a very white face, trying with nervous haste to unfasten the bolts, and so let himself out. On the dresser close by his side stood the candle brought from up stairs, and at his feet the portmanteau shut and partially strapped. I understood his little game at a glance, even if his ghastly tell-tale face had not proclaimed it. He had taken advantage of his comrade's brief absence to abscond with *both* shares of the stolen property, trusting in the darkness to get clear away, and secure the whole of the booty to himself. A look of relief came over his face when he saw that it was not his terrible comrade come to avenge his treachery. With a snarl of rage he turned from the door, and drawing a pistol from his bosom, fired it point-blank at me just as I was rising from the ground. The wind caused by the bullet stirred my hair, but there was no further damage done, and before he had time to fire again, I had sprung at his throat, and we grappled together, and reeled from side to side of the room in a wild struggle for mastery. He was agile and wiry as a panther and quite my equal in sheer physical strength, for you must remember that I was little more than a lad at that time; and it would perhaps have gone hard with me had I not brought to bear a little trick with the leg which I had learned among the Westmoreland wrestlers, which stole his feet from under him before he knew what was the matter, and brought him crashing to the ground, with me on the top of him. In falling, he struck his head with tremendous force against the edge of the oaken dresser, and next moment his grasp relaxed, his eyes closed, and a pallor as of death overspread his face. I thought in truth he was killed.

All this time the stout man was thundering at the door above stairs, making desperate efforts to get out, and as soon as I had struggled to my feet, the instinct to escape, to get away from that horrible house, came over me as strongly as before. I drew the remaining bolts and opened the door, and felt the cool night-air blow over me with a feeling of thankfulness which no words of mine could express. I turned for a moment, as I crossed the threshold, for a last look at my opponent lying motionless across the hearth, and as I did so, my eye fell on the portmanteau, and acting on the impulse of the moment, I seized it, and flinging it over my shoulder, closed the door behind me, and hurried away into the silent streets.

To the first constable whom I met, I gave myself and the portmanteau in charge, and was by him hurried off to the station, where I told my strange story in as few words as possible; and four constables were despatched to the house, which was at once recognised from my description, as it had long been looked on with suspicion. When they returned, it was in company of two out of the three inmates of the house; but the stout man had got clear away before their arrival. The slim man, who had recovered his wits by this time, finding the game up, volunteered a confession, the details of which were afterwards found to be substantially correct, and the chief points of which I will now give you as briefly as may be.

The jewellery, &c., contained in the portmanteau had been stolen from the establishment of Bellingham & Co., the great jewellers and silversmiths of Mellingshall. Mr. Bellingham's chief assistant and confidential servant was one Matthew Lamplough—he who has hitherto been designated as the slim man—a person who had gradually worked himself up from the position of shop boy, till he had become practically the manager of the whole concern, for Mr. Bellingham was getting old, and glad to move some of the cares of business on to more youthful shoulders. But Lamplough's ambition at last overstepped his prudence, as he found to his cost, when he one day asked the old man to give him his daughter's hand in marriage—his daughter, who was so handsome and so accomplished, and would some day have thirty thousand pounds to call her own. The old man's reply, as soon as amazement would let him speak, was a peremptory refusal, accompanied by some disparaging remarks on the vileness of Matthew's origin—he had gone to Bellingham & Co.'s from the workhouse—and followed up by the intimation that he, Matthew, should retain his confidential post no longer, but be put back to the position of an ordinary assistant in the establishment. Matthew vowed to be revenged, and he kept his word. It was while in this mood that he made the acquaintance of an individual going by the name of Captain de Vaux—the stout man of my narrative—a gay dashing fellow of insinuating manners, who was staying for a few weeks at the best hotel in Mellingshall. De Vaux was not long before he wormed himself into Matthew's confidence, and heard from his lips the narrative of his wrongs, as he deemed them to be; and then by slow degrees he unfolded a plan by which Lamplough might both revenge and enrich himself at the same time. Matthew stared aghast at the proposal when it was first unfolded to him; but the cunning De Vaux gradually familiarised him with the idea, till at length he seized it with avidity. The first thing to do was to obtain duplicate keys of the strong boxes in which the stock of Bellingham & Co. was stored in the cellars below the shop. Wax impressions of the genuine keys were easily obtained by Matthew, from which De Vaux had real keys manufactured. After these had been tried, and found to answer, the time for their enterprise was fixed, and all needful preparations made by De Vaux for its successful issue.

Mr. Bellingham always left town on Saturday evenings, to spend Sunday at his villa in the country, the premises being left in charge of Matthew and two other assistants. It was agreed that Matthew should ask for leave of absence from Saturday night till Monday morning; and that, after the departure of Mr. Bellingham, he should go down into the cellars, open the safes with his false keys, load his portmanteau with the most valuable property he could find, relock the safes, and then quietly take his departure as though he were going on his proposed journey. All this was safely accomplished. Lamplough got out of the house without being suspected by his fellow-servants, but not till half an hour past the time agreed on, so that when he and De Vaux reached the station, they found that the last north train had been gone five minutes. Their plan had been to get down by train to the station nearest De Vaux's house, then take the cab which would be in waiting for them, and so reach home about one o'clock in the morning. Here the spoil was to be divided, the necessary disguises assumed; and by six o'clock on Sunday morning, they were to be on board one of the foreign steamers which started at that hour from a neighbouring port, by which means they would be safe out of England before the robbery was discovered. The rest you know.

The old man was too cunning to allow himself to be implicated in any way. Captain De Vaux was merely his lodger, he said; as to what his pursuits were, he knew nothing; and he had been requested to take care of me as being a mild lunatic, whom De Vaux was about to conduct to a private asylum. I may mention that in his younger days the old man had been known as a notorious "fence," or receiver of stolen goods.

The *soi-disant* Captain de Vaux was captured several years after in France, for a daring robbery committed in France, and condemned to the *travaux-forcées* for—I forget how many years.

A Remarkable Escape.—The following beats all the stories of remarkable escapes which we remember ever to have heard:—"On the passage of the ship Anaxander from New Orleans to New York, a young lad, about fourteen years of age, from a naturally rollicsome and thoughtless disposition, became so troublesome in his pranks, that he was threatened by the captain, if they were continued, that he would confine him in a water-cask. Our youngster, however, took no heed, and on again offending, was put in the cask, which was headed up, leaving a large bung-hole for the admission of air. That night the ship encountered a violent storm, and in a sudden lurch, the cask containing the boy rolled over into the sea. The circumstance was not noticed by those on board. Fortunately the cask struck bung up, and floated about thirty hours, when it was thrown upon the beach at St. Bias. Here the boy made desperate efforts to extricate himself from his prison, but without success, and, in despair, gave up to die. Some cows, however, strolling on the beach, were attracted to the cask, and in walking round it, one of them switched her tail into the bung-hole, which the boy grasped with a desperate resolution. The cow bellowed and set off for life, and after running some two hundred yards with the cask, struck it against a log on the beach, and knocked it, as we say, into a cocked hat. The boy, thus providentially released, was discovered by some fishermen on the Point and taken into Apalachicola, where a small collection being made for him, he was enabled to proceed north by way of Columbus."

VARIETIES.

Epitaph on a portrait painter—Taken from life.

Why is a schoolmaster like a cobbler?—Because he improves the understanding.

"No pains will be spared to cure you," as the quack said when sawing off a poor fellow's leg.

A clergyman who had been told that his sermons were too long, excused himself on the ground, that the church was a large one.

A shrewd confectioner in a provincial town has taught his parrot to say "pretty creature" to every lady who enters his store. His custom is rapidly increasing.

Mrs. Partington is horrified to hear that the dancing girls execute their *grand pas de* [illegible] with all the people looking at 'em, and applauding of 'em too.

Somebody asked a postilion the reason of his having but one spur. "Why, what would be the use of another?" said the postillon; "if one side of the horse goes, the other can't stand still."

A member of Congress, Mr. Anderson, of Missouri, has introduced a constitutional amendment, to change the name of the government from "the United States" to "America."

Ma'ame Anecdote whose daughter married the eminent barrister, Lechaud, exclaim'd once to a friend, "I am the happiest mother in France. I have a son-in-law of whom every one talks, and a daughter of whom no person has ever made a remark."

"I will extend no other mercy to you," said a prince to a jester, who, for a fault, was condemned to death, "except permitting you to choose what kind of death you will die. Decide immediately, for I will be obeyed."—"I adore your clemency," said the jester; "I choose to die of old age."

An Irish gentleman entered a bookseller's shop in Dublin the other day, with a valuable work, which he said, was to be bound in a superior style. "And how will you have it done?" said the bookbinder—"in Russia?"—"In Russia? certainly not!" was the reply.—"In Morocco, then?" continued the shopkeeper.—"No, neither in Russia nor Morocco," rejoined the patriot; "if you can't do it here, I'll take it to the bookbinder over the way."

Whatever faults Voltaire may have had, he certainly showed himself a man of sense when he said: "The more married men you have, the fewer criminals there will be. Marriage renders a man more virtuous and more wise."

Life Parcelled Out.—Lord Coke wrote the following, which he religiously observed:—"Six hours to sleep, to law's great study six, four spend in prayer, the rest to nature fix." But William Jones, a wiser economist of the fleeting hours of life, amended the sentiment thus:—"Seven hours to law, to soothing slumber seven, ten to the world allot, and all to Heaven."

Superfluous Advice.—The Inverness Courier says:—"I have heard of a chaplain to a union workhouse who preached to his congregation from the text, 'Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth.'" Another contemporary says—"We have heard of a Kilmarnock prison chaplain praying 'Carry us in safety to our respective places of abode,' after which the hearers were marched off to their cells."